


## PRINCE JIVAKA

Kattiyangaran, the treacherous minister of Hemangada, kills the royal family and usurps the throne. Queen Vijaya escapes the slaughter. She gives birth to a son and puts his father's royal ring upon his finger. The child grows up to be Prince Jivaka.


Jivaka has many adventures and regains the throne. But the core of the book becomes apparent when, at the end of the story, a weary Jivaka decides to renounce his kingdom and become a Jain monk.

The story is taken from Jivaka Chintamani, an epic poem in Tamil. It was written by a young Jain monk, Tirutakkatevar, and is considered one of the classics of Sangam literature (300 BC - 300 AD).


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 MALAVIKA

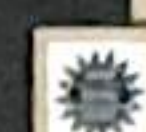


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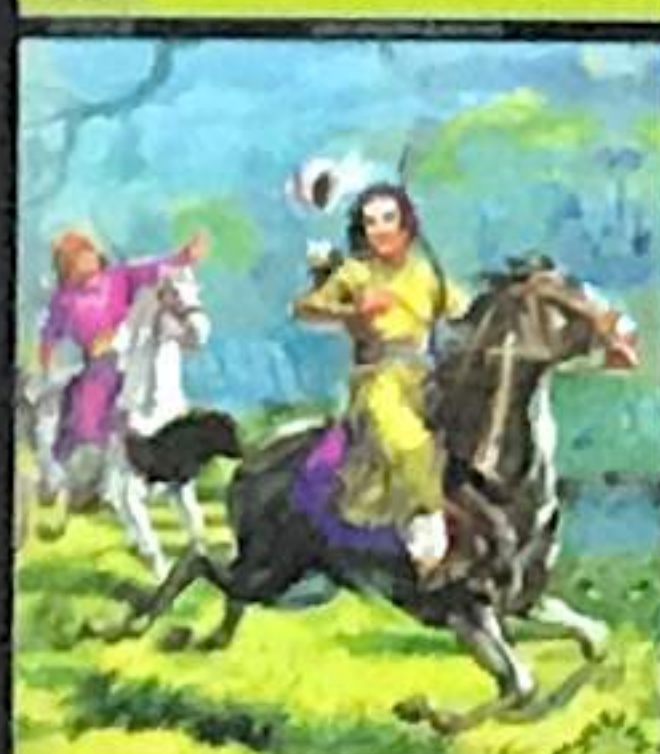
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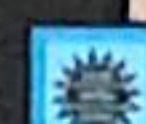


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- NARAYAN MURTHY, CHIEF MENTOR, INFOSYS

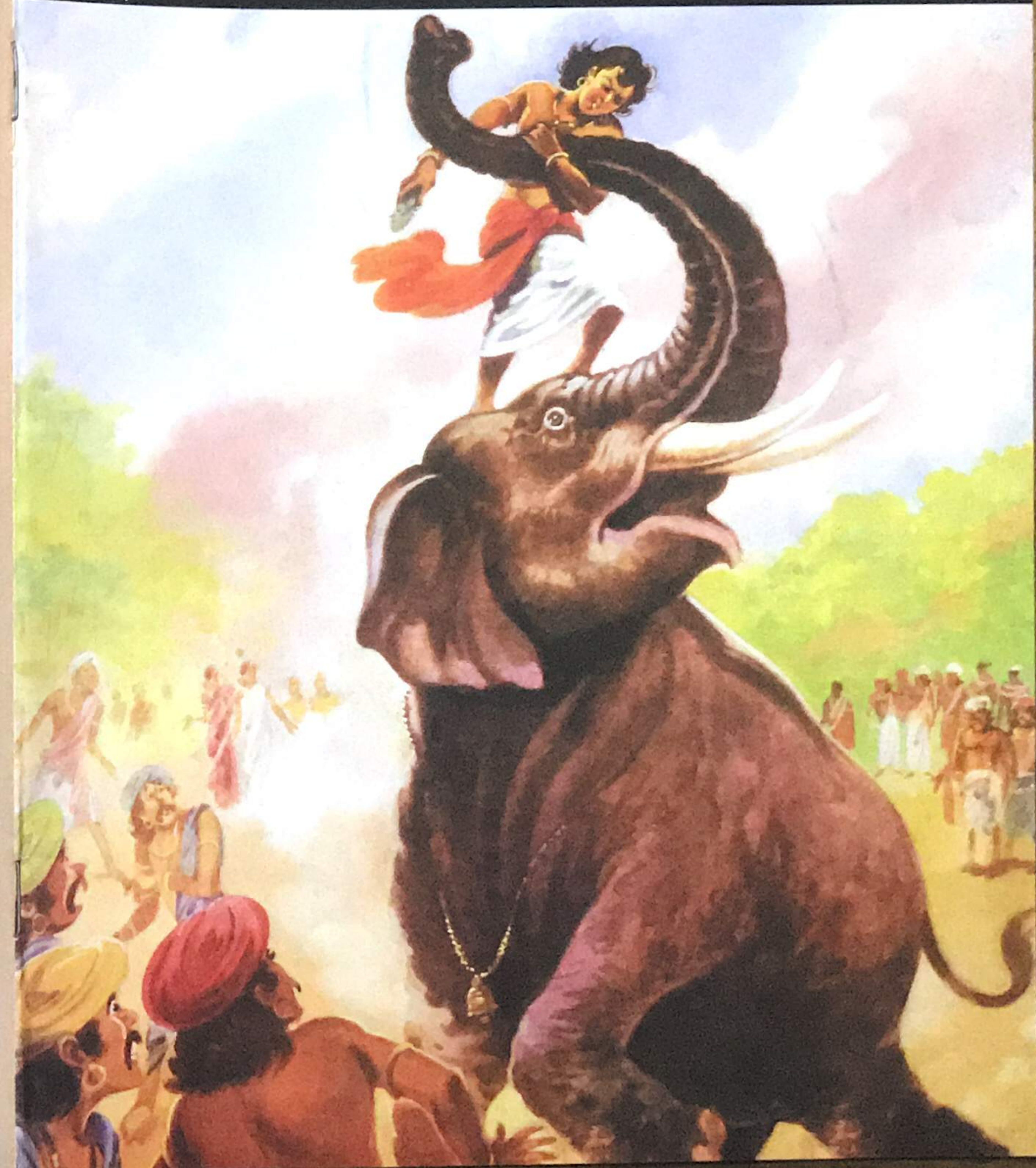
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# PRINCE JIVAKA

FROM THE EPIC TAMIL POEM, JIVAKA CHINTAMANI

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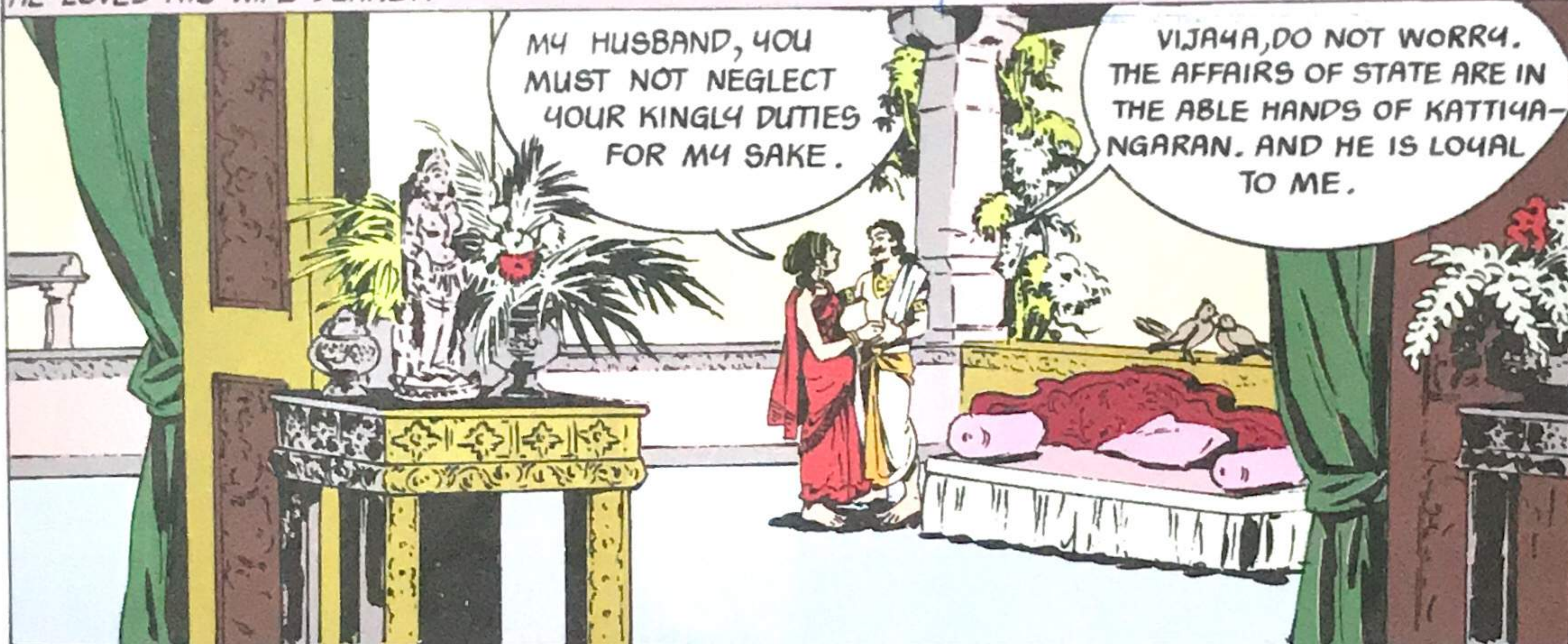


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# JIWAKA

KING SACHCHANDAN OF THE KURU DYNASTY RULED AT RAJAMAPURAM, THE CAPITAL OF HEMANGADA. HE LOVED HIS WIFE DEARLY.



MY HUSBAND, YOU MUST NOT NEGLECT YOUR KINGLY DUTIES FOR MY SAKE.

VIJAYA, DO NOT WORRY. THE AFFAIRS OF STATE ARE IN THE ABLE HANDS OF KATTIYANGARAN. AND HE IS LOYAL TO ME.

BUT KATTIYANGARAN WAS FAR FROM LOYAL TO THE KING. FOR AT THAT MOMENT IN THE COURT -

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, MINISTERS! I HAVE SEIZED POWER AND AM THE KING NOW. ALL MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY SHALL BE PUT TO DEATH.

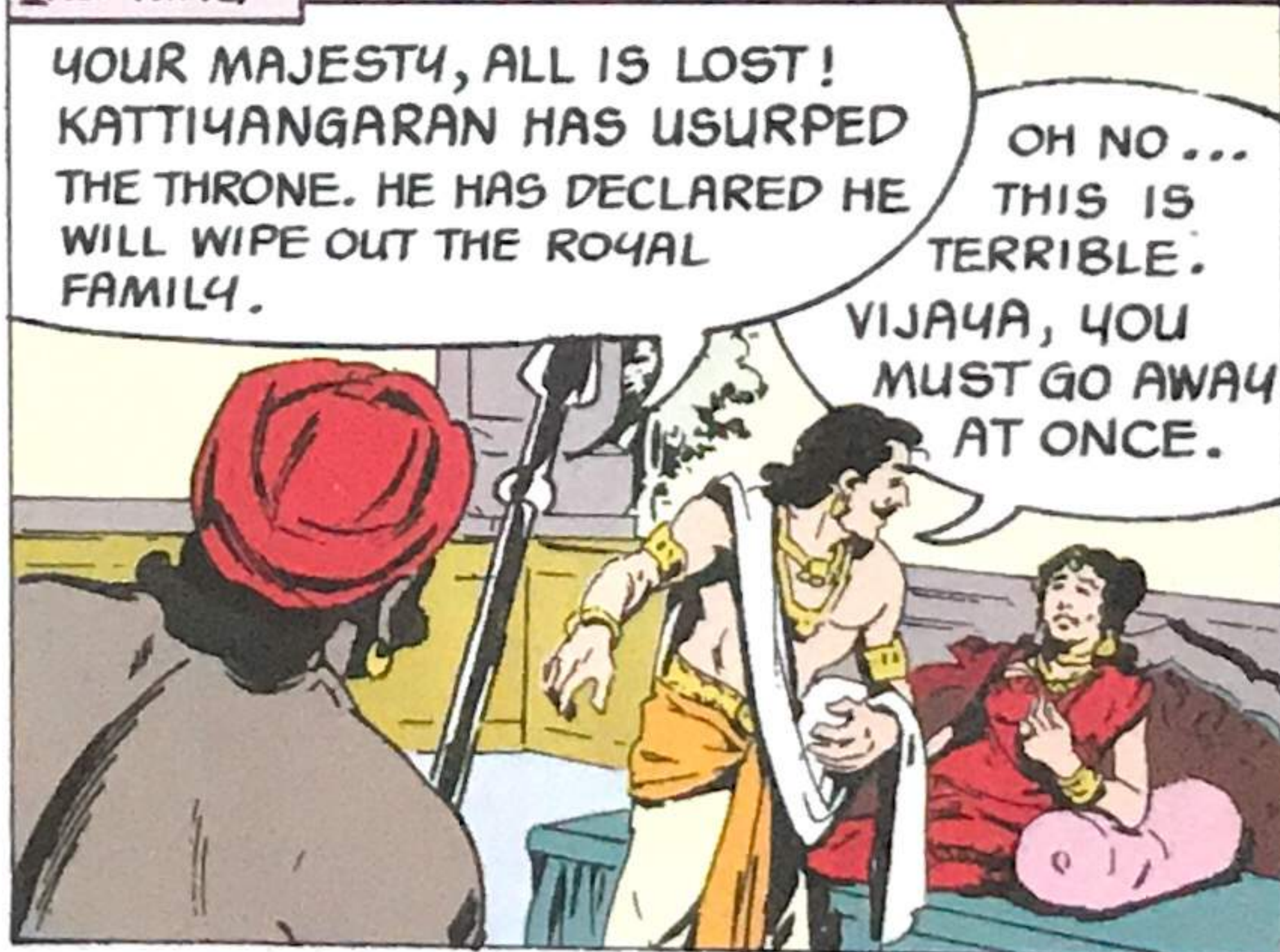


A MEMBER OF THE GUARD IMMEDIATELY RUSHED TO THE KING -

YOUR MAJESTY, ALL IS LOST! KATTIYANGARAN HAS USURPED THE THRONE. HE HAS DECLARED HE WILL WIPE OUT THE ROYAL FAMILY.

OH NO... THIS IS TERRIBLE.

VIJAYA, YOU MUST GO AWAY AT ONCE.



NO, I WILL NOT GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT YOU.

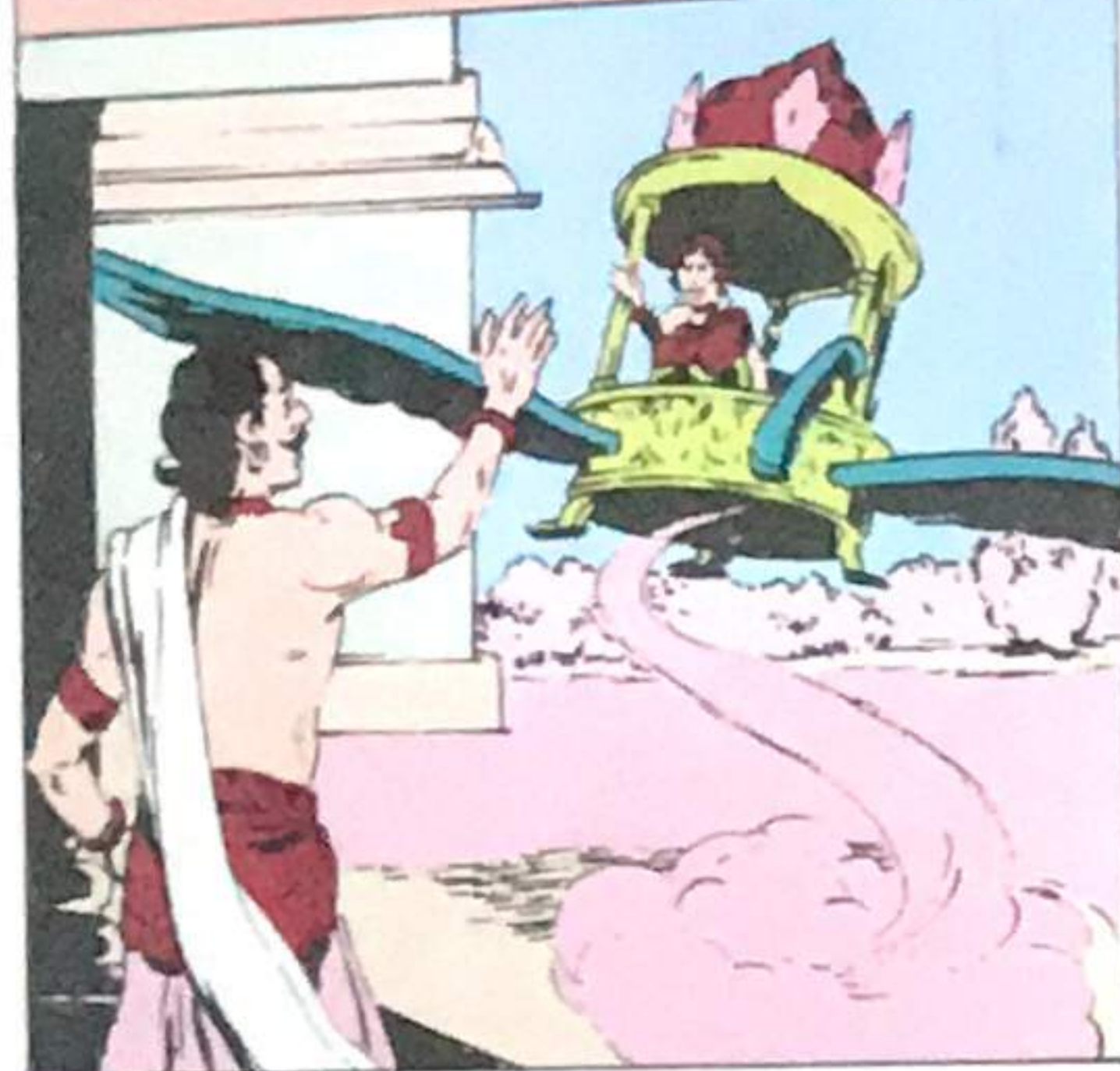
VIJAYA, OUR UNBORN CHILD MUST BE OUR MAIN CONCERN NOW.



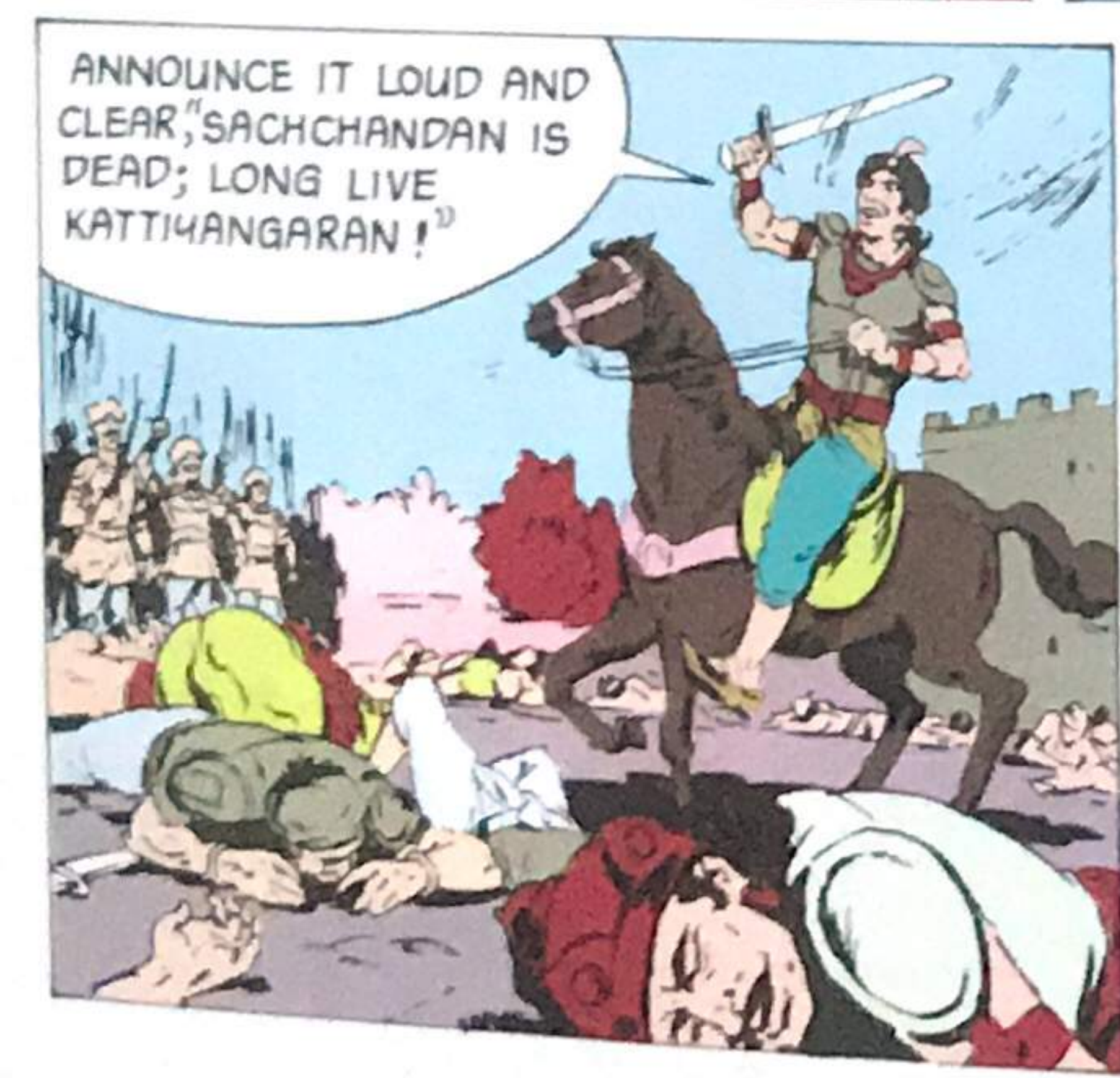
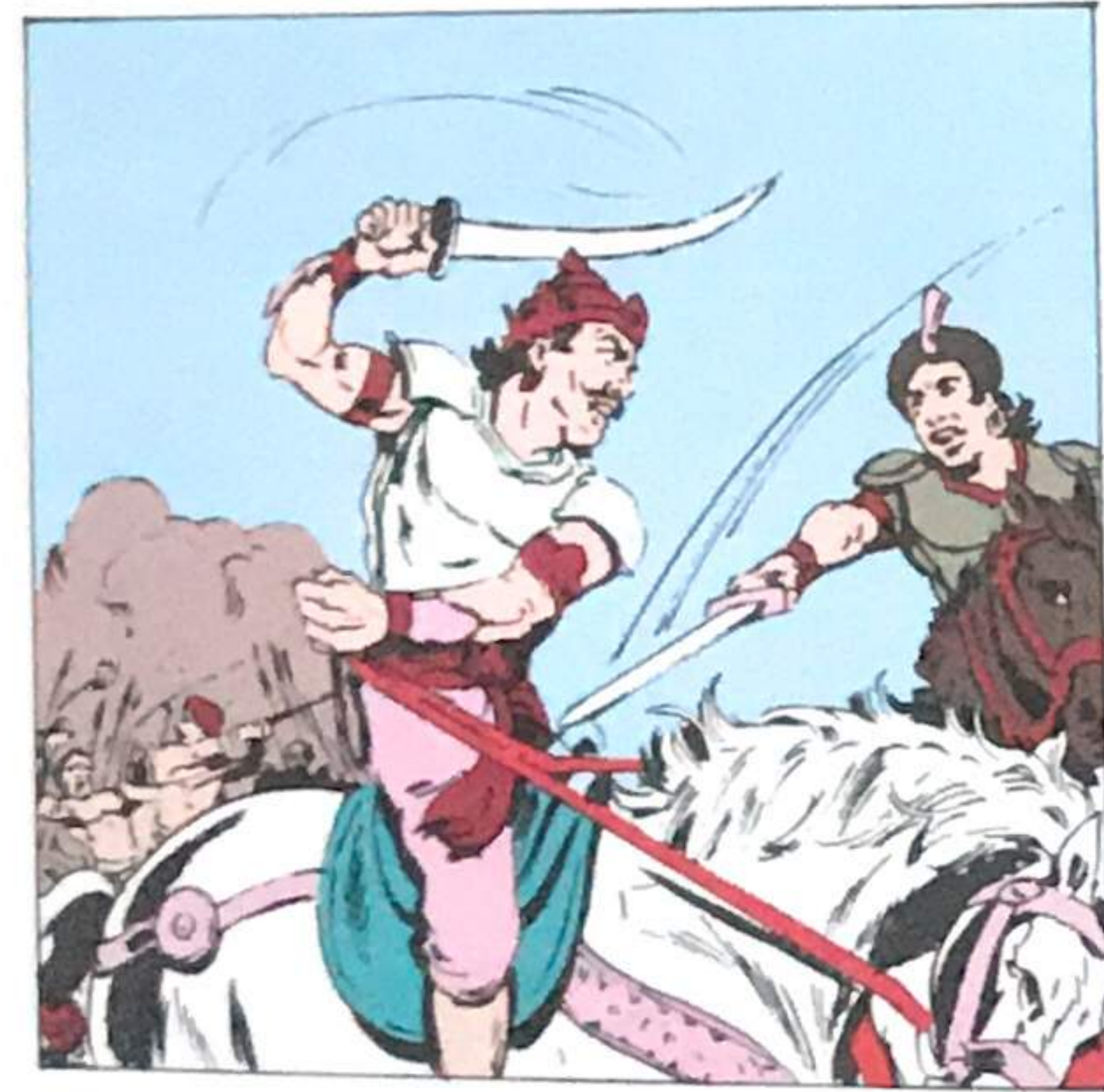
THE KING MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR VIJAYA'S ESCAPE...



... IN A SPECIAL FLYING MACHINE, THE QUEEN ESCAPED IN IT RELUCTANTLY.



AFTER TAKING LEAVE OF HIS WIFE, SACHCHANDAN THEN RODE BACK TO RAJAMPURAM AND CHALLENGED KATTIYANGARAN TO A FIGHT.



ANNOUNCE IT LOUD AND CLEAR, "SACHCHANDAN IS DEAD; LONG LIVE KATTIYANGARAN!"



THE SOLDIERS RODE ROUND THE TOWN PROCLAIMING THE NEWS. THE QUEEN ALSO HAPPENED TO HEAR IT.

SACHCHANDAN IS DEAD. LONG LIVE KATTIYANGARAN!

UNABLE TO BEAR THE SHOCK, SHE FAINTED.



THE MACHINE CRASHED INTO A CREMATION GROUND.



THAT NIGHT VIJAYA GAVE BIRTH TO A SON.



O FATHERLESS CHILD, I WILL HAVE TO ABANDON YOU. BUT FIRST I WILL PUT THE ROYAL RING ON YOUR FINGER...



... GOODBYE, MY SON.

AND THE WEeping VIJAYA LEFT THE GROUND.

SOON A MERCHANT CAME TO THE CREMATION-GROUND WITH HIS DEAD CHILD.



CRUEL FATE, DID YOU GIVE ME JOY, ONLY TO SNATCH IT AWAY IN A MOMENT?

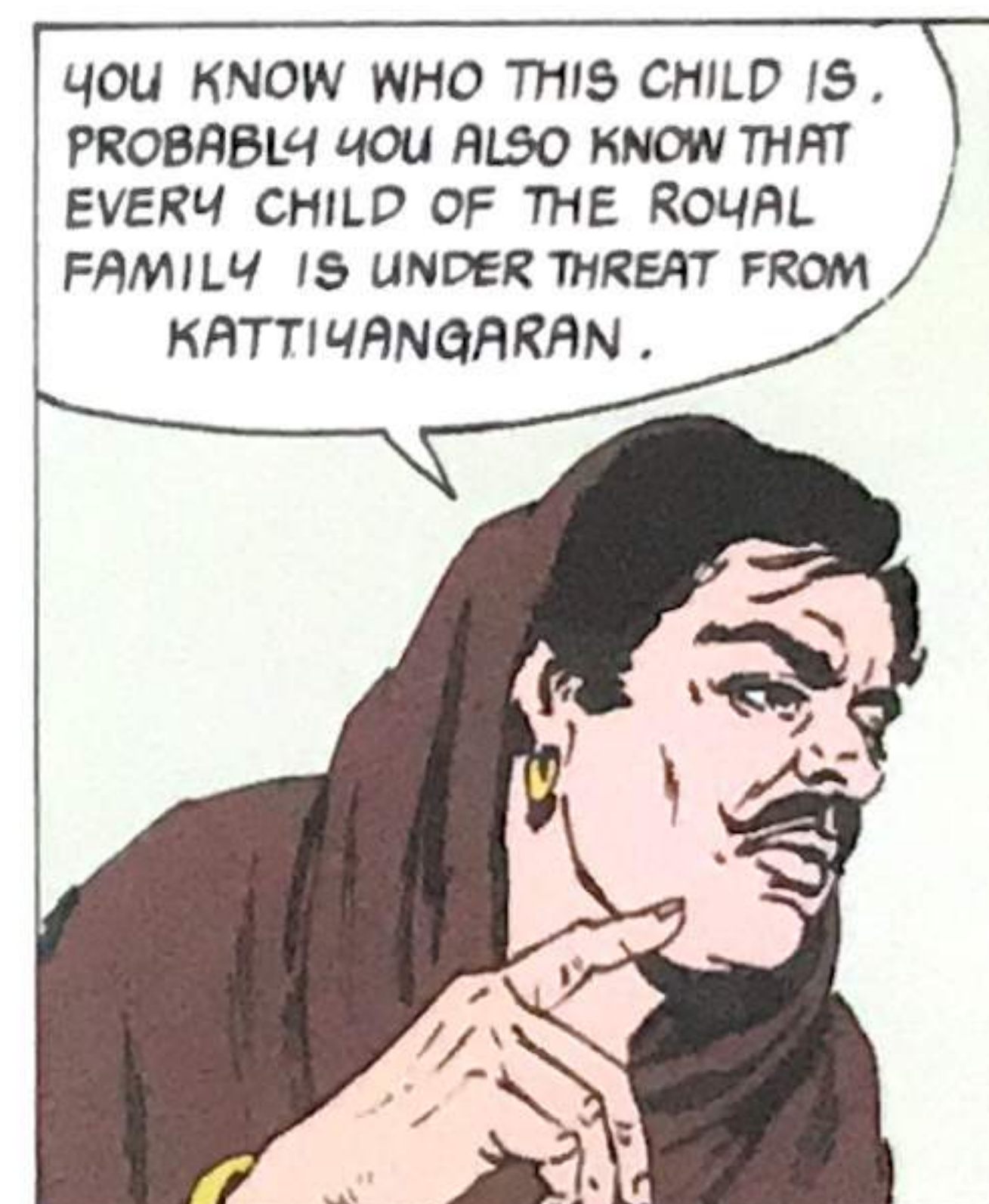
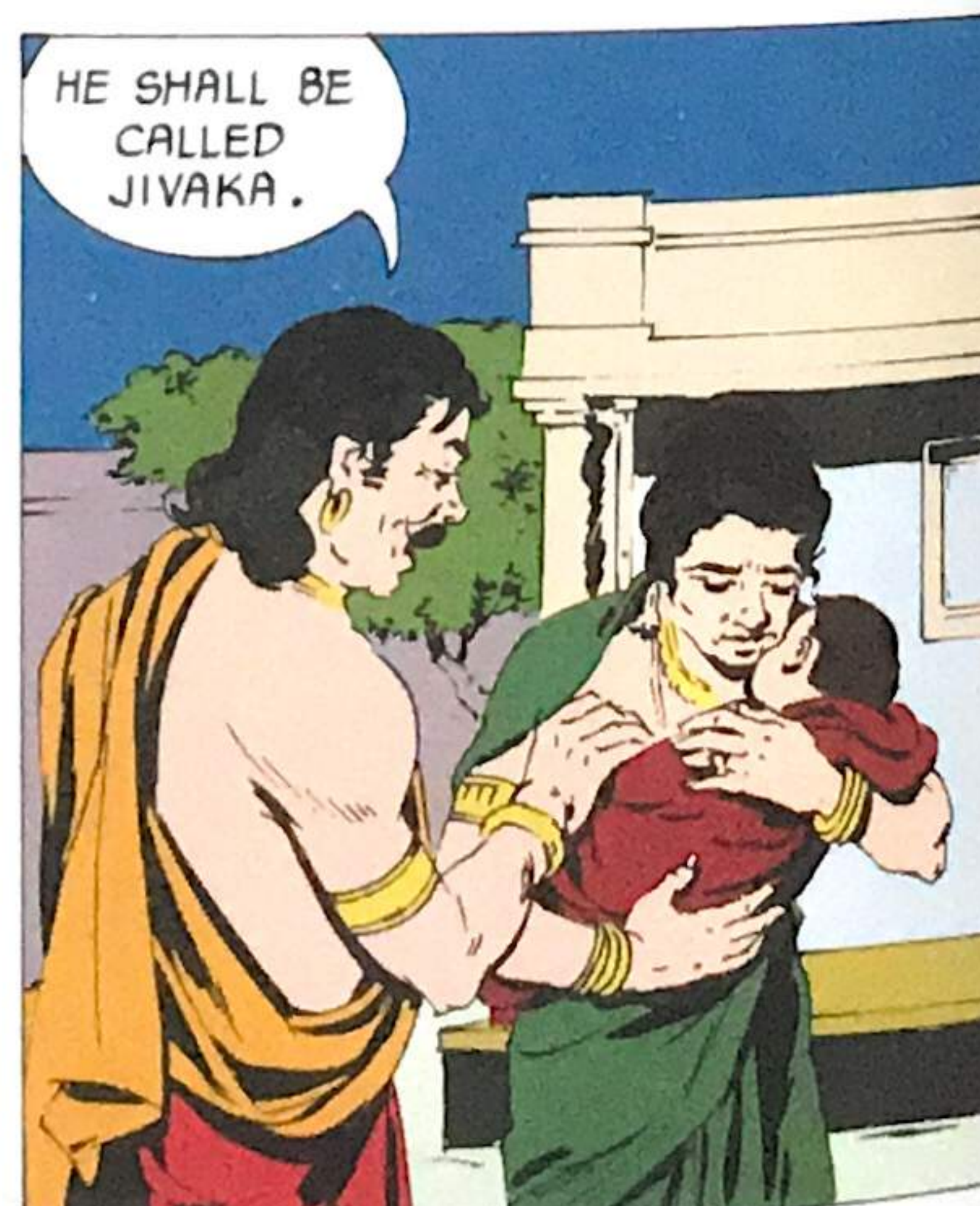
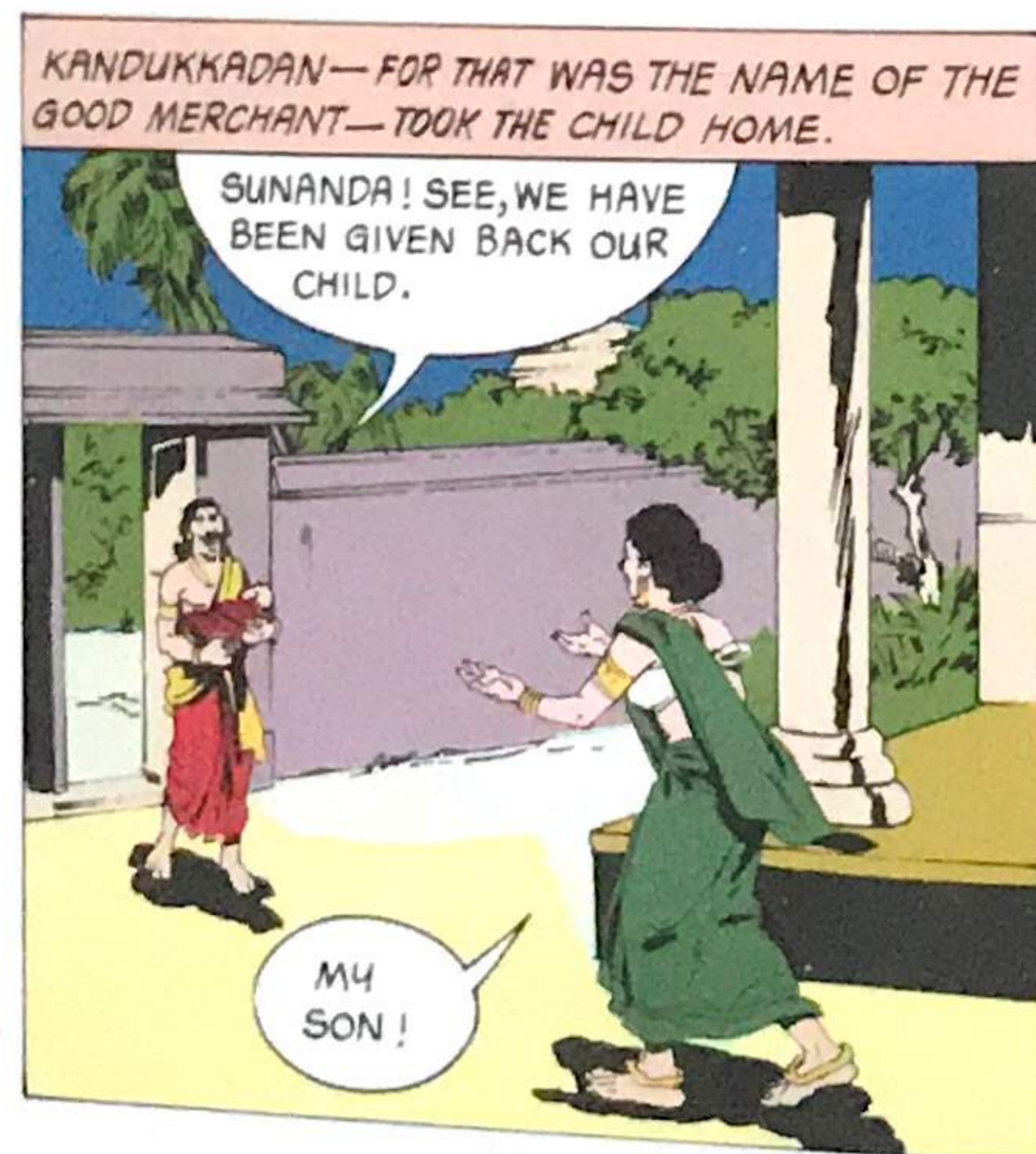
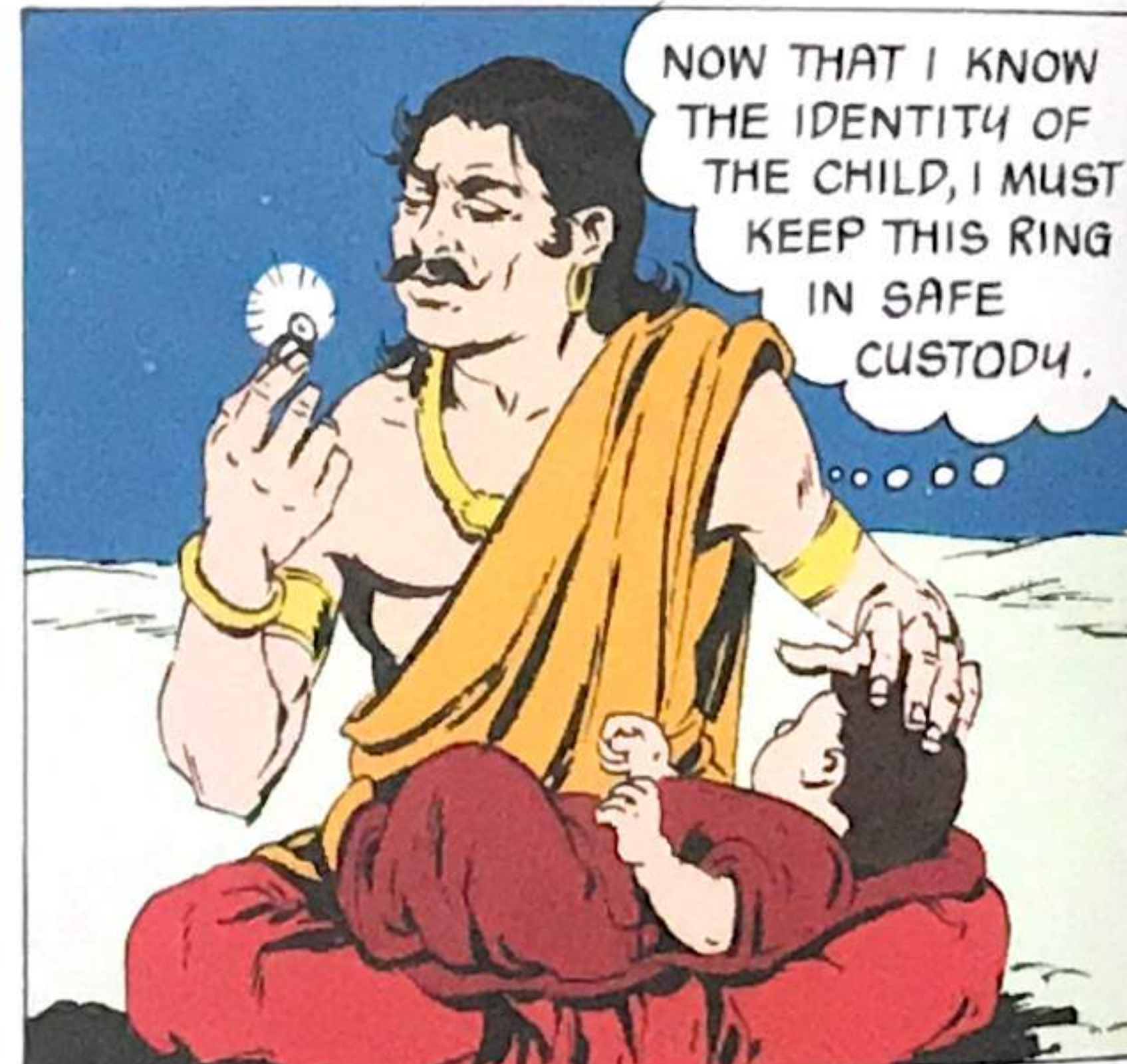
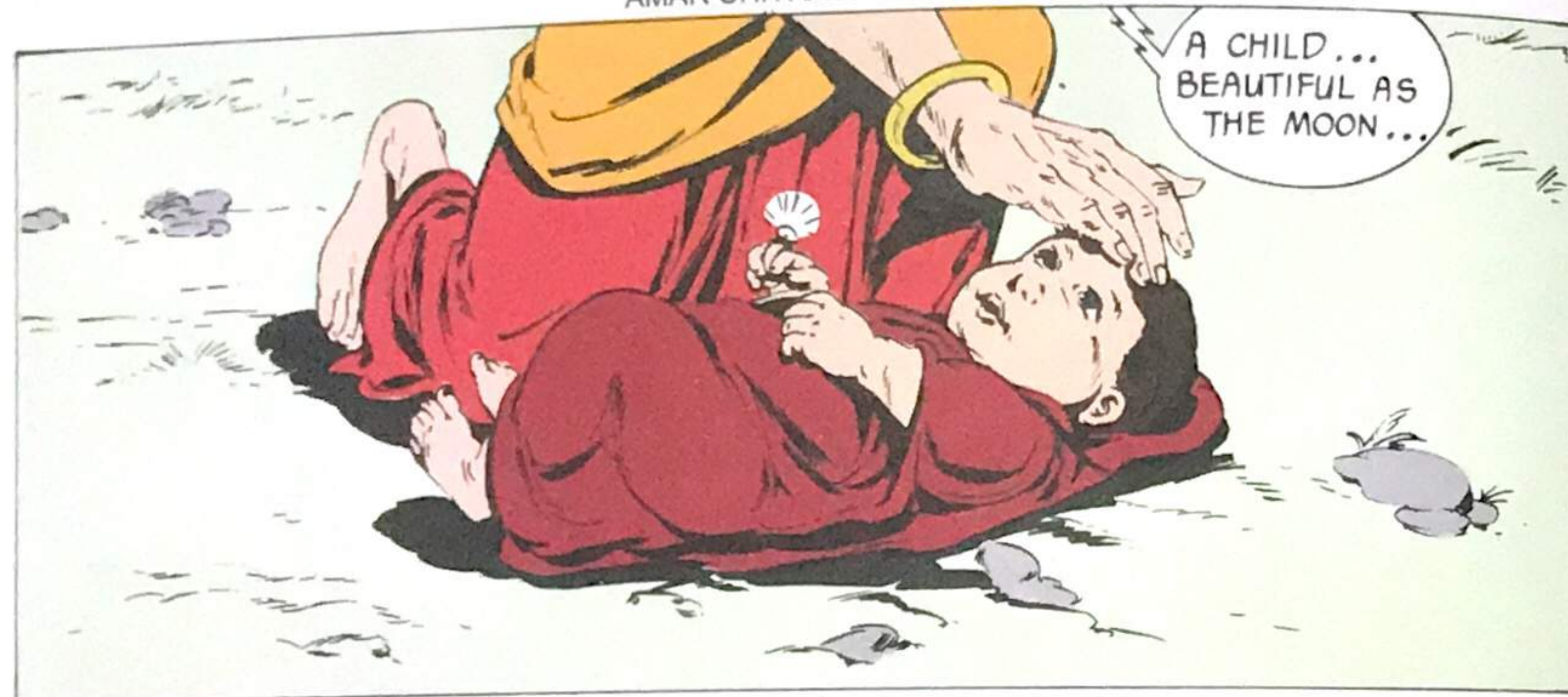


NO MORE CAN YOU SLEEP IN A CRADLE, MY SON, BUT INSTEAD YOU WILL SLEEP ON A FLAMING PYRE...

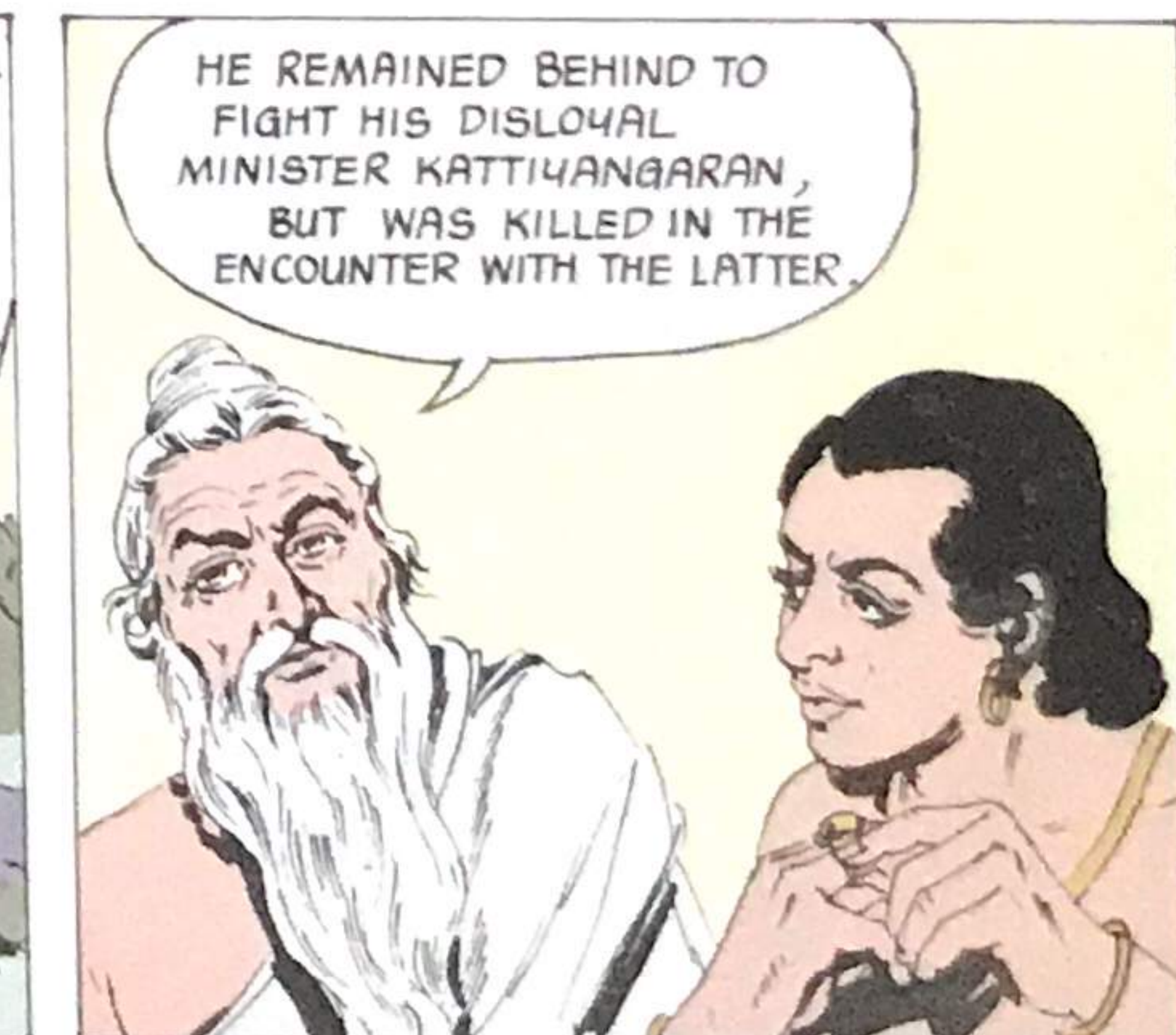
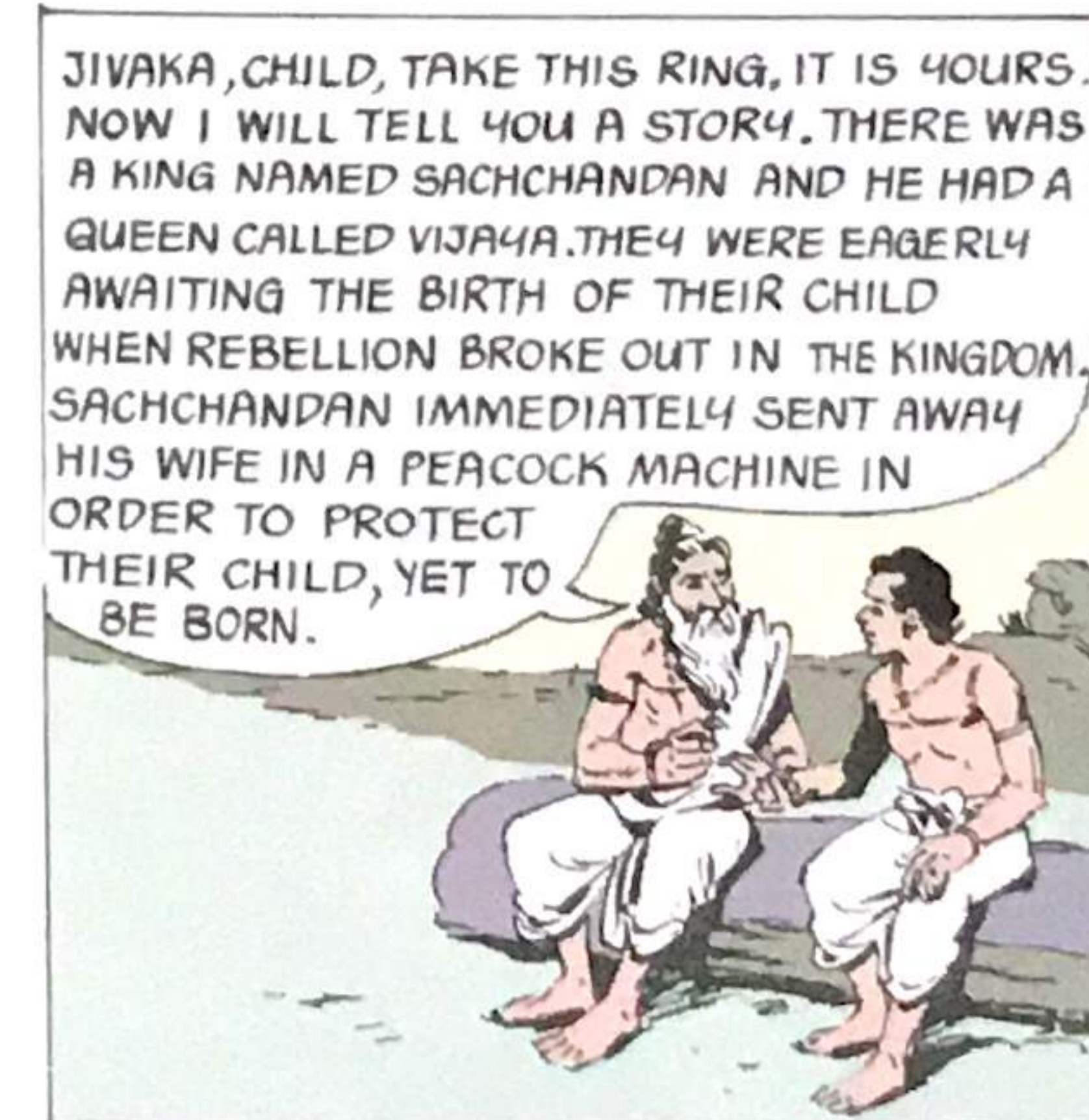
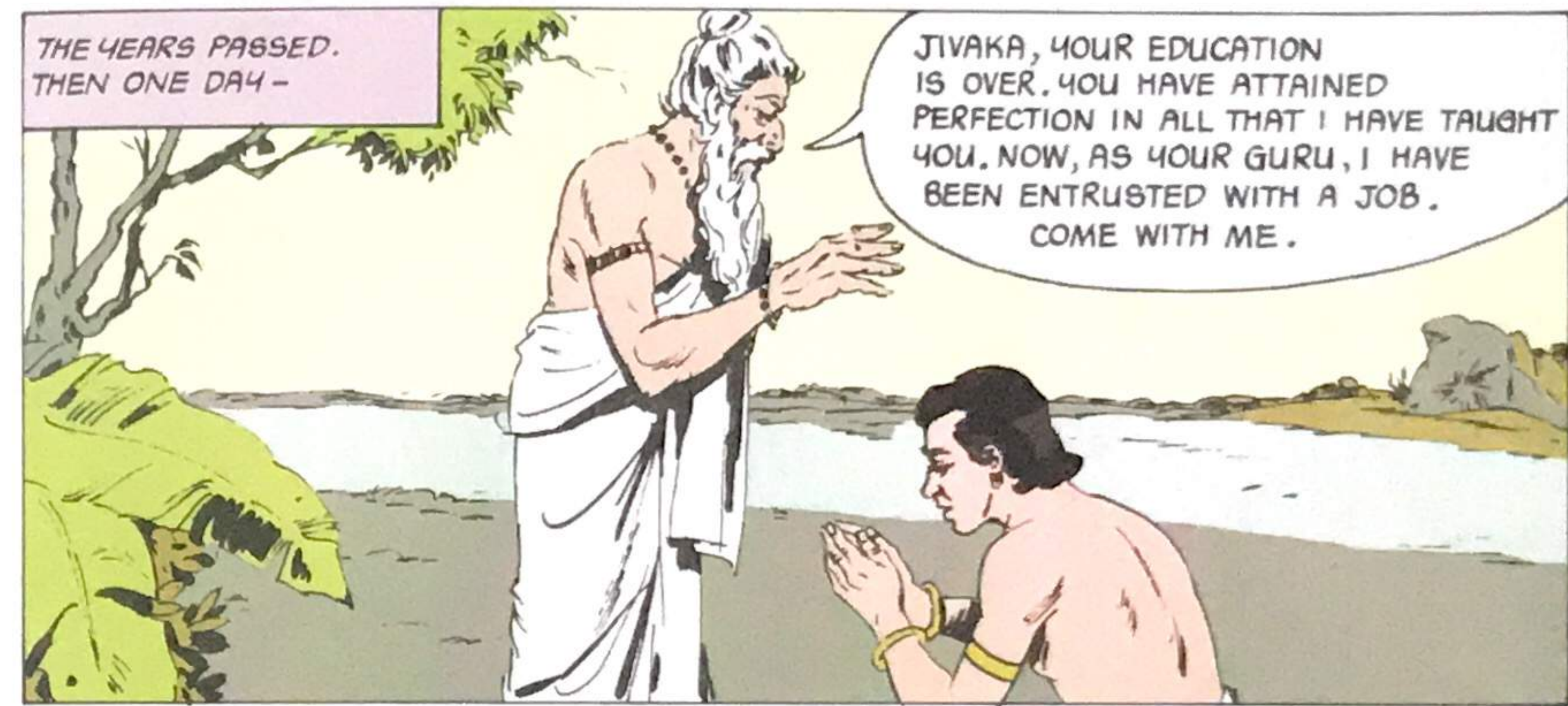
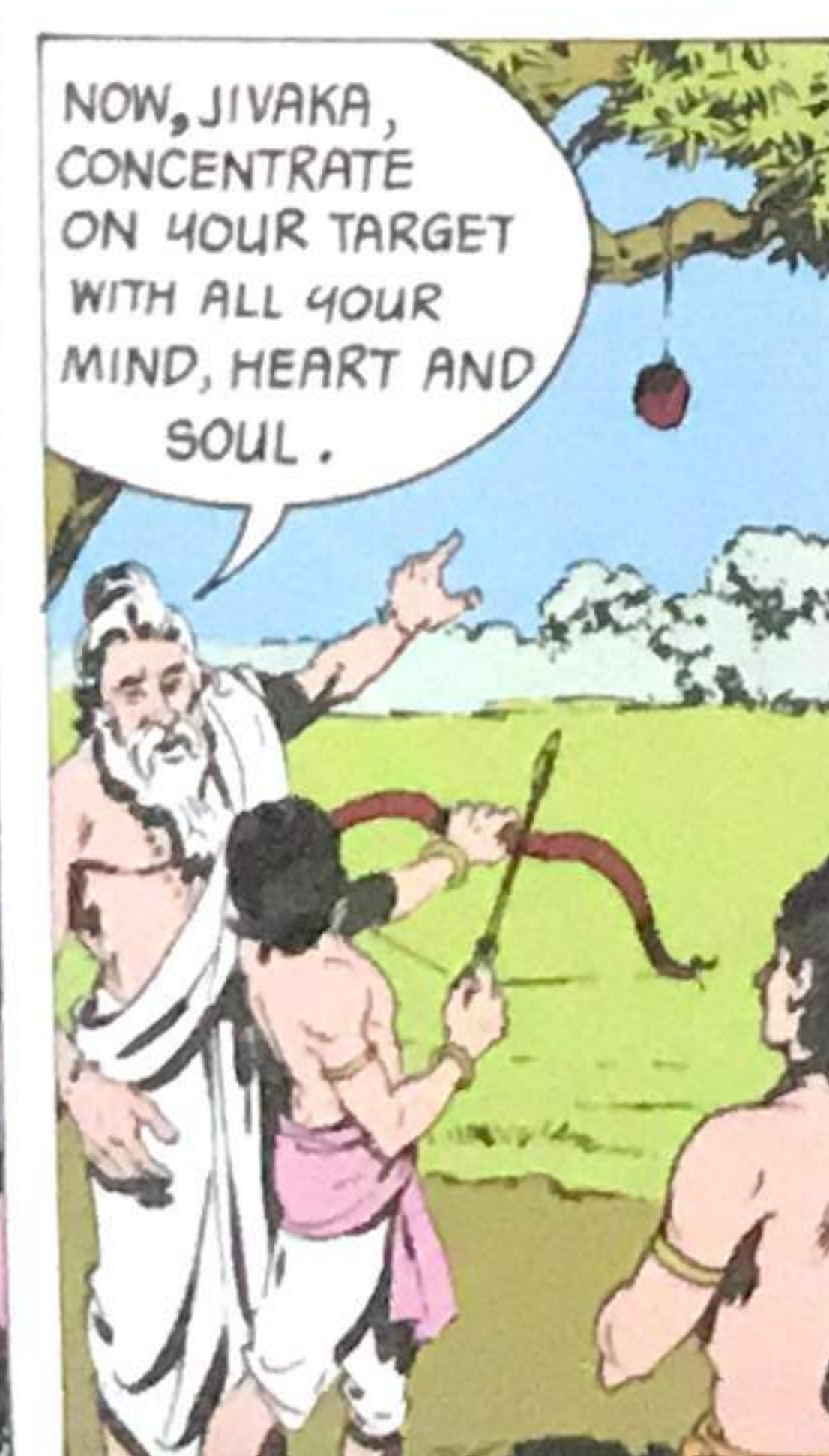
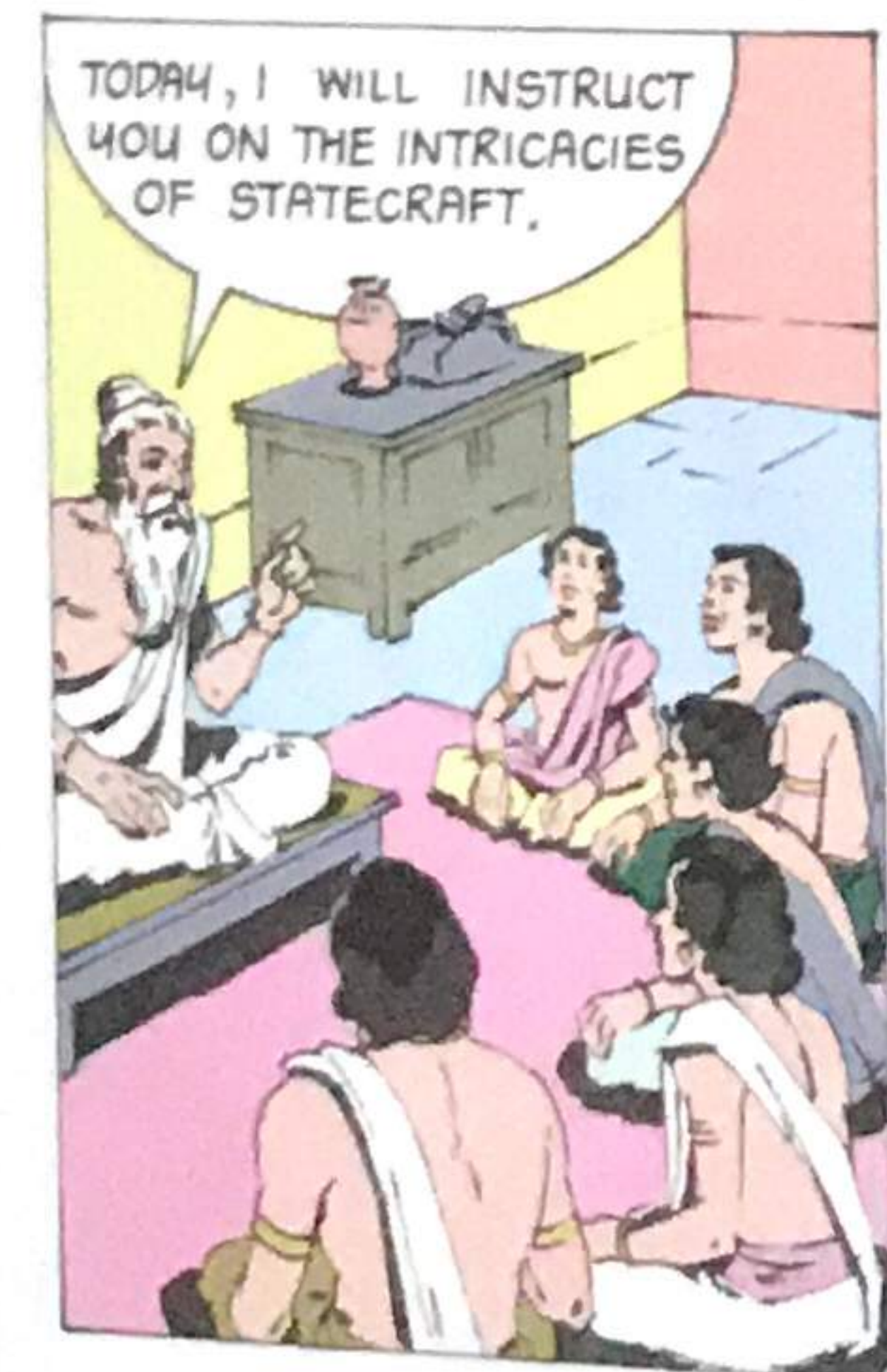
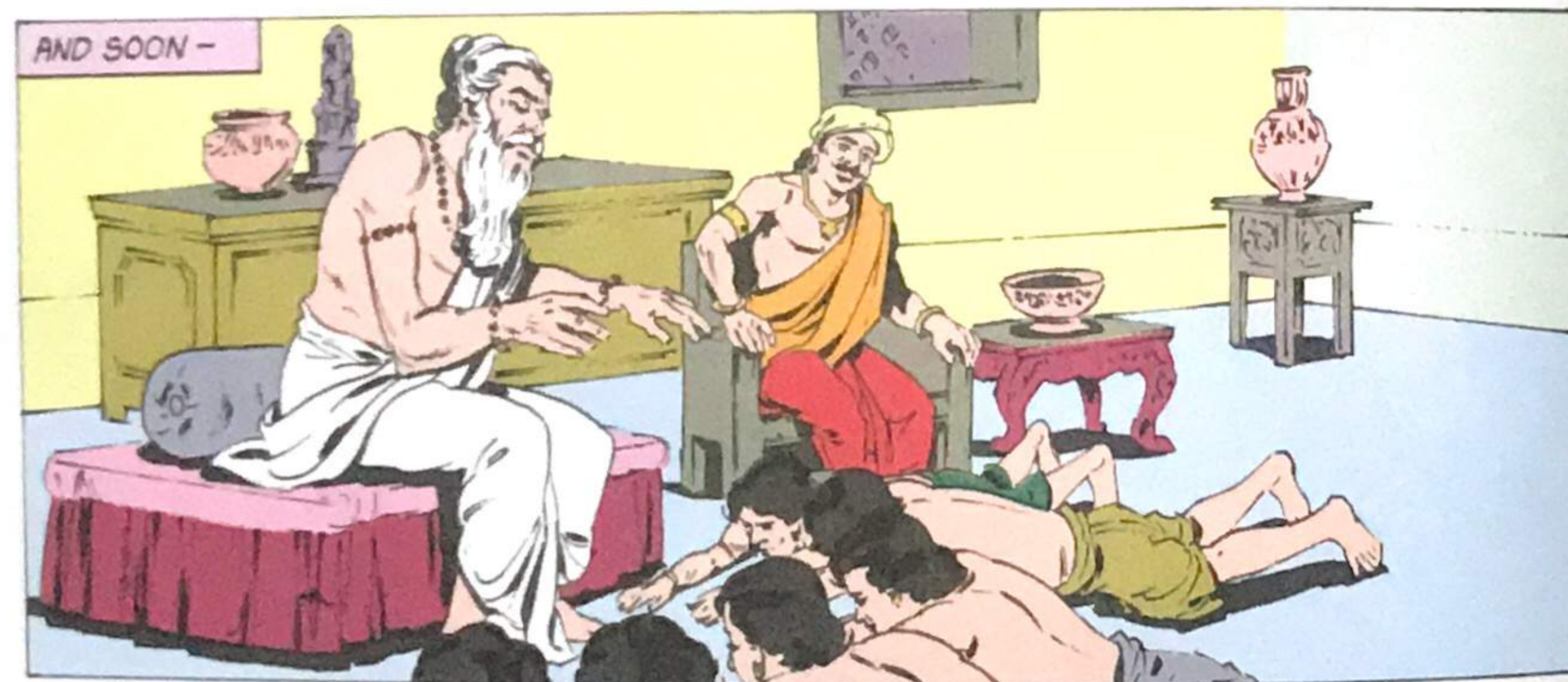
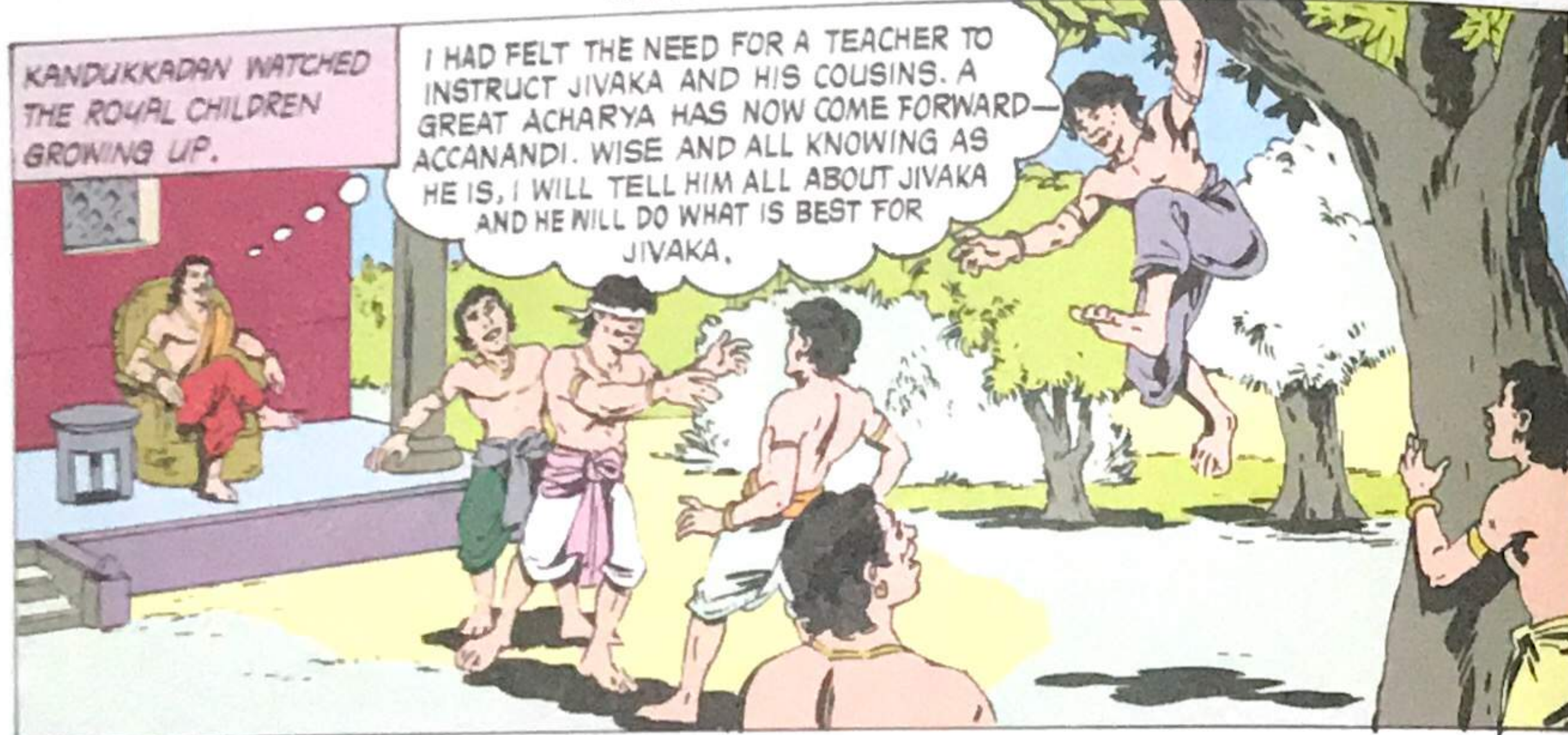


... WHAT ... IS THIS?

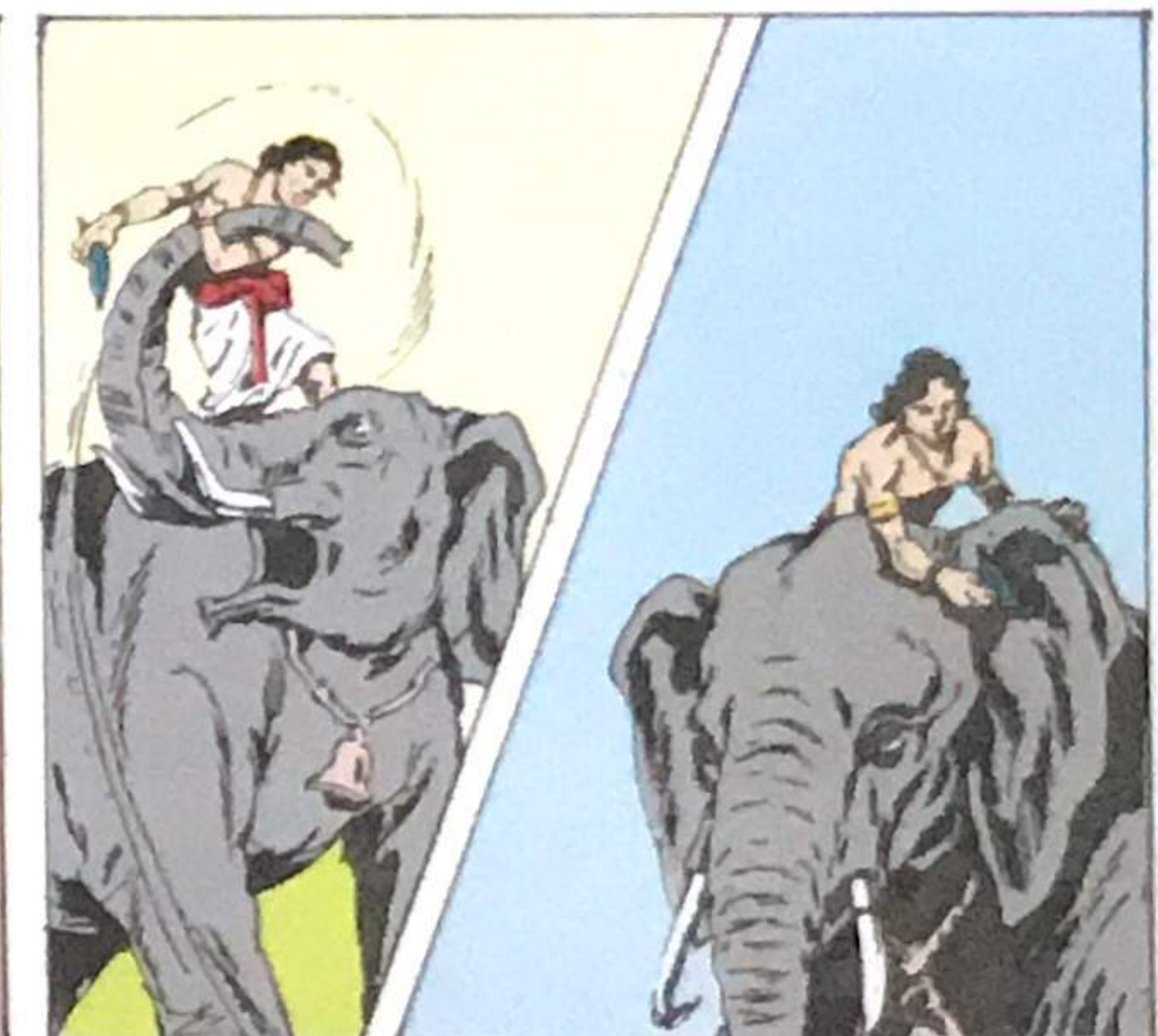
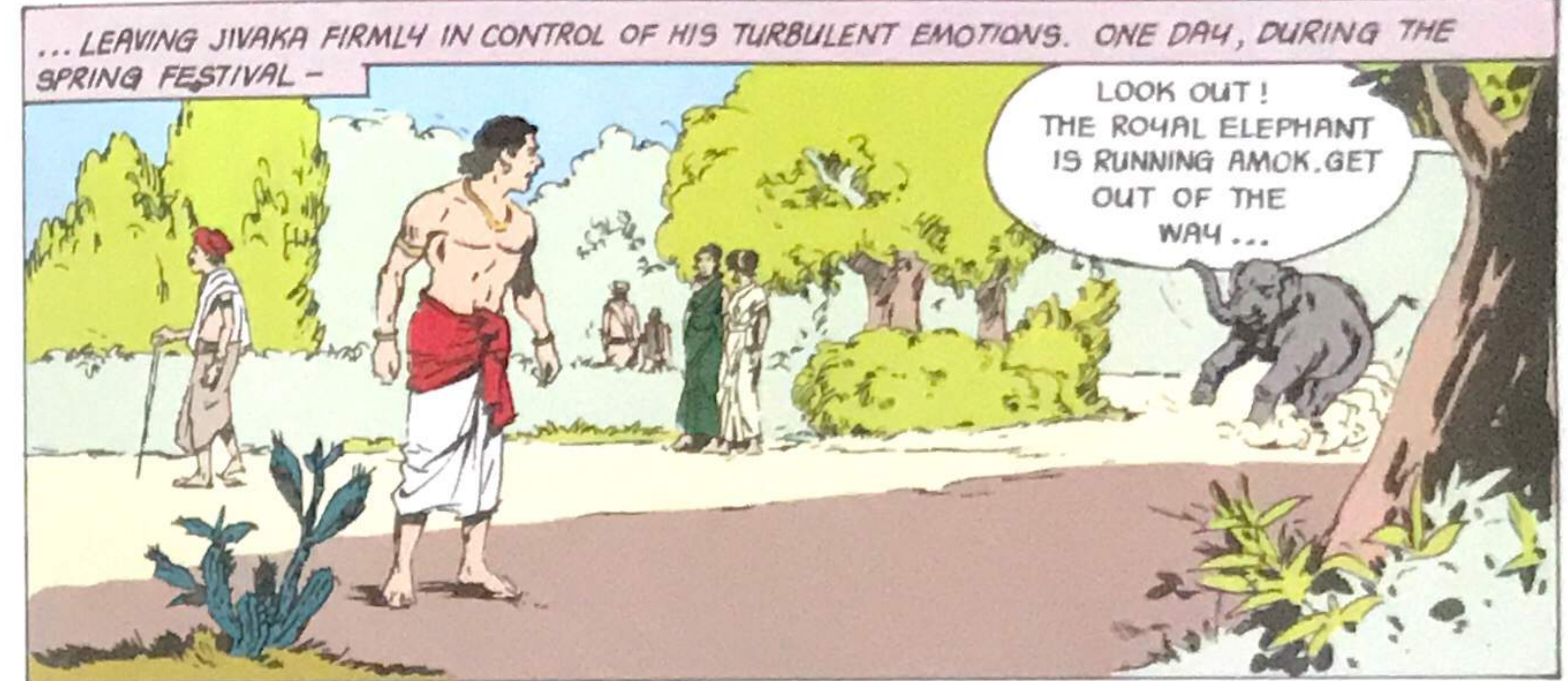
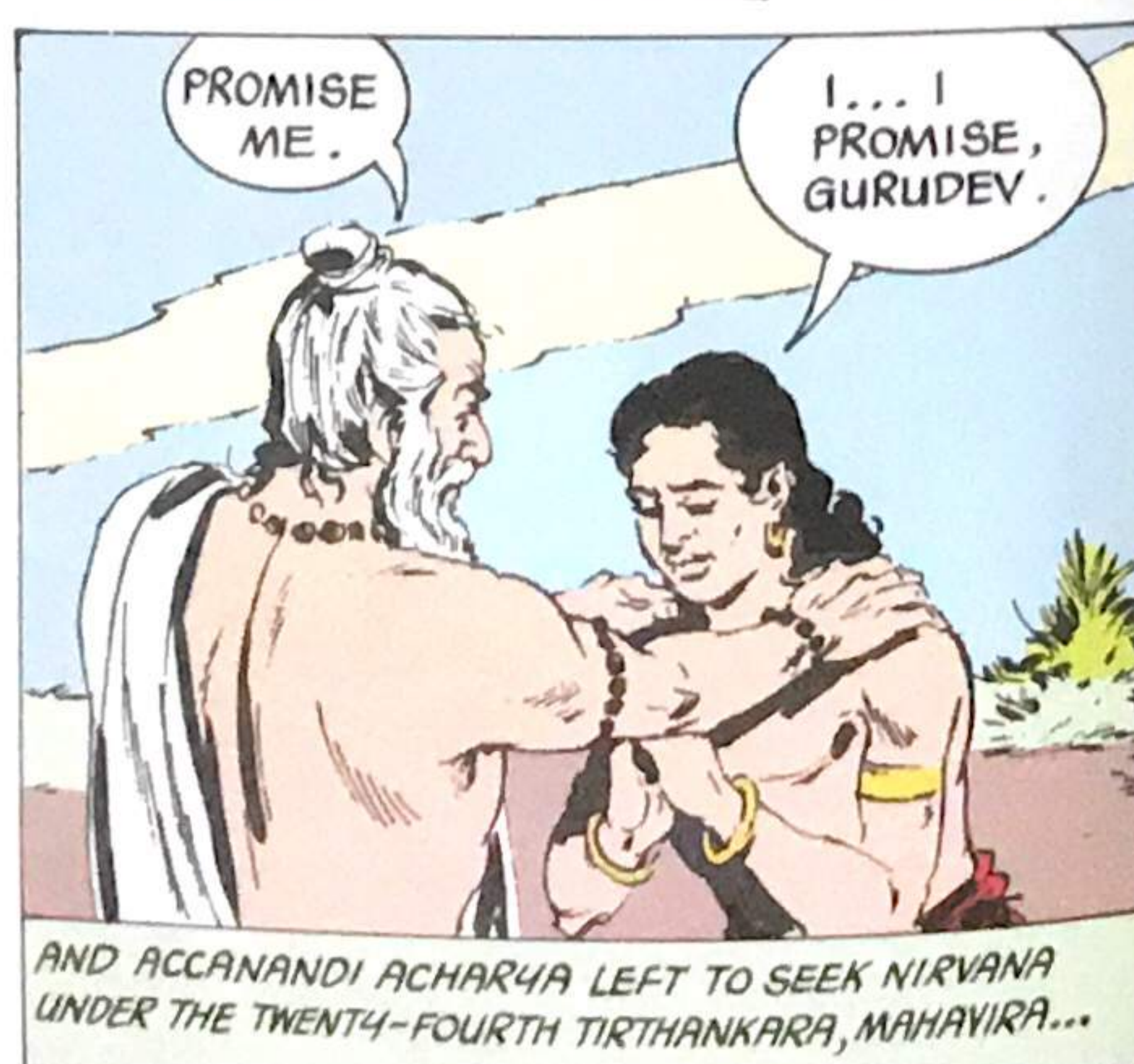
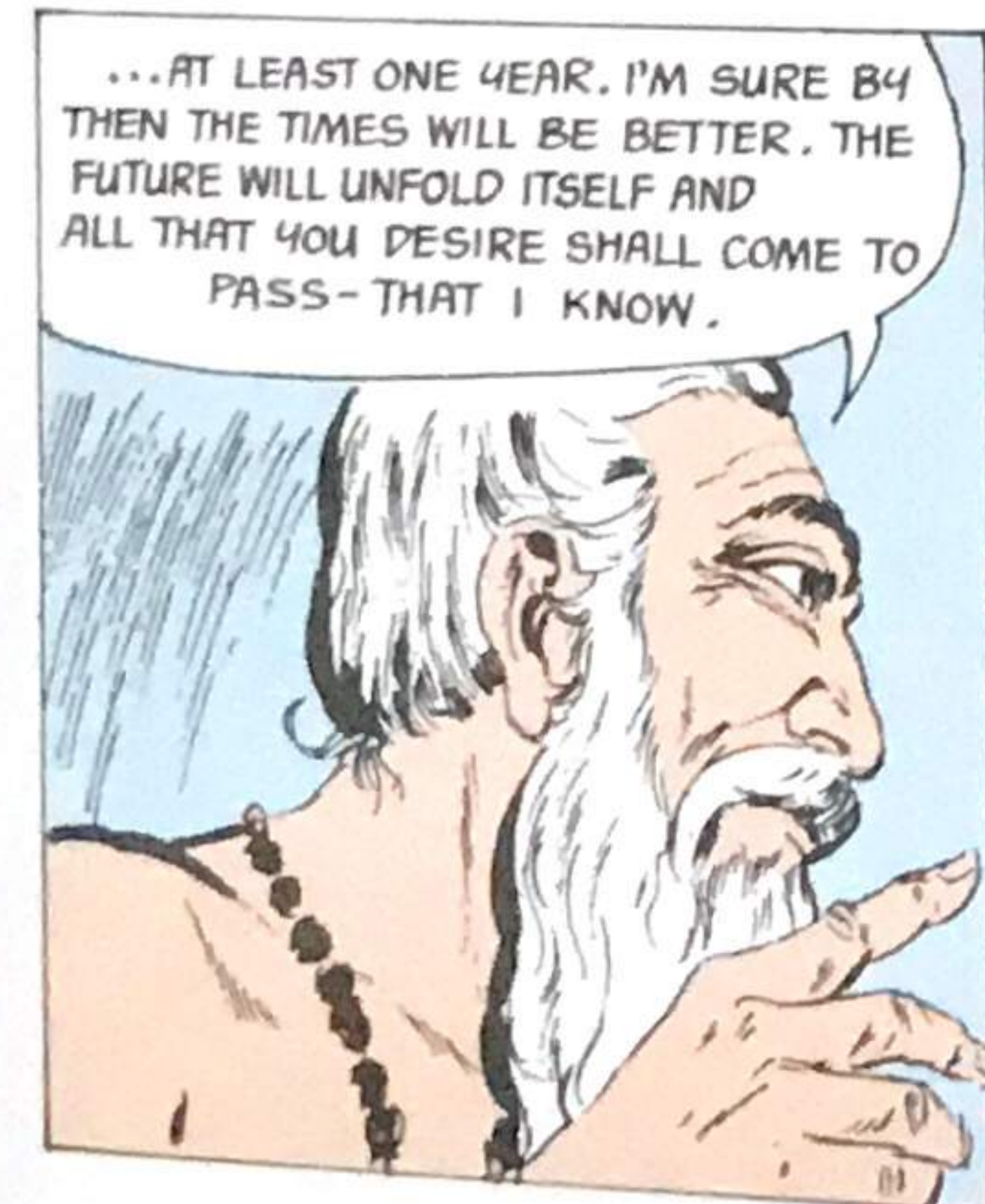
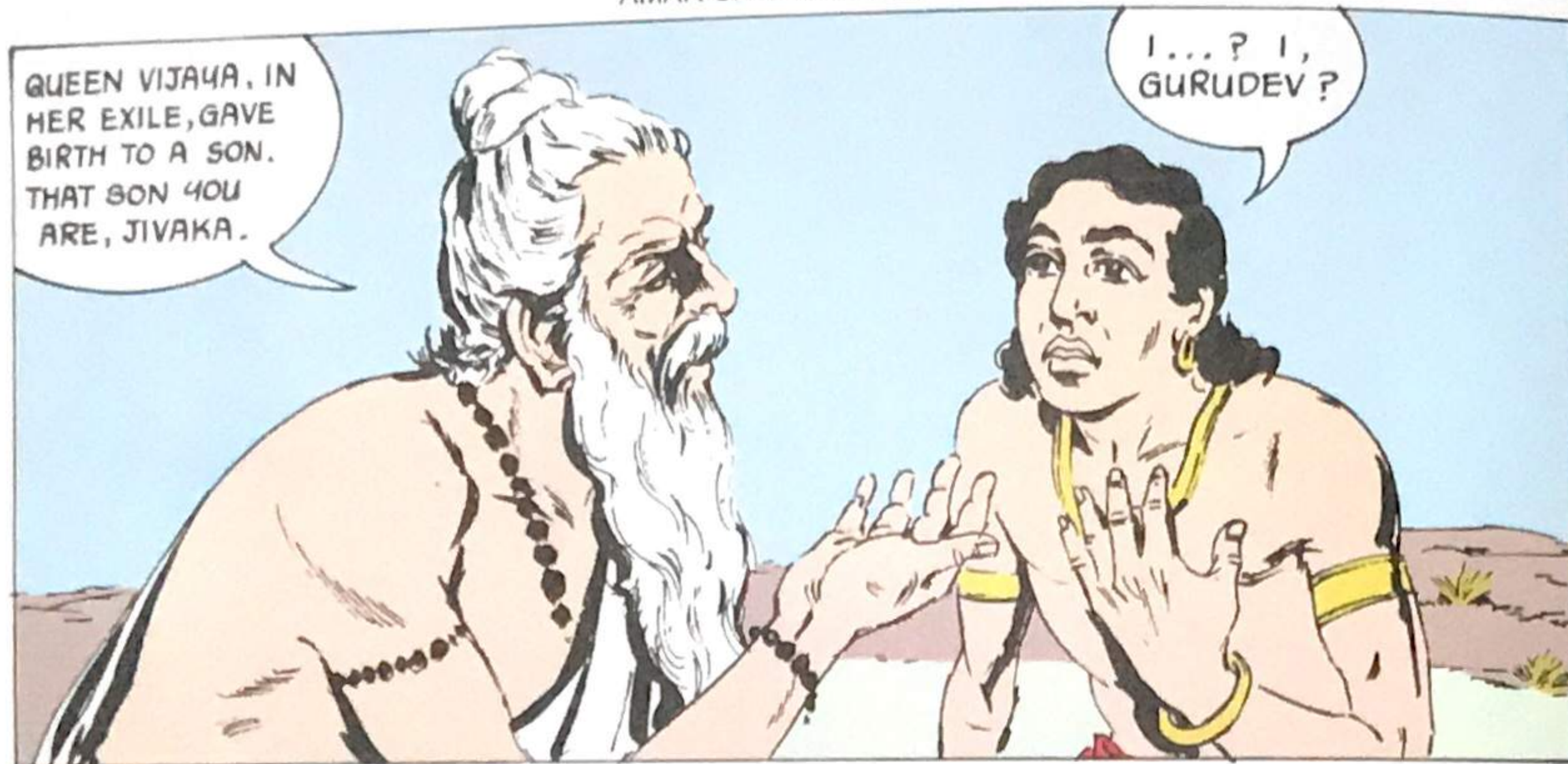




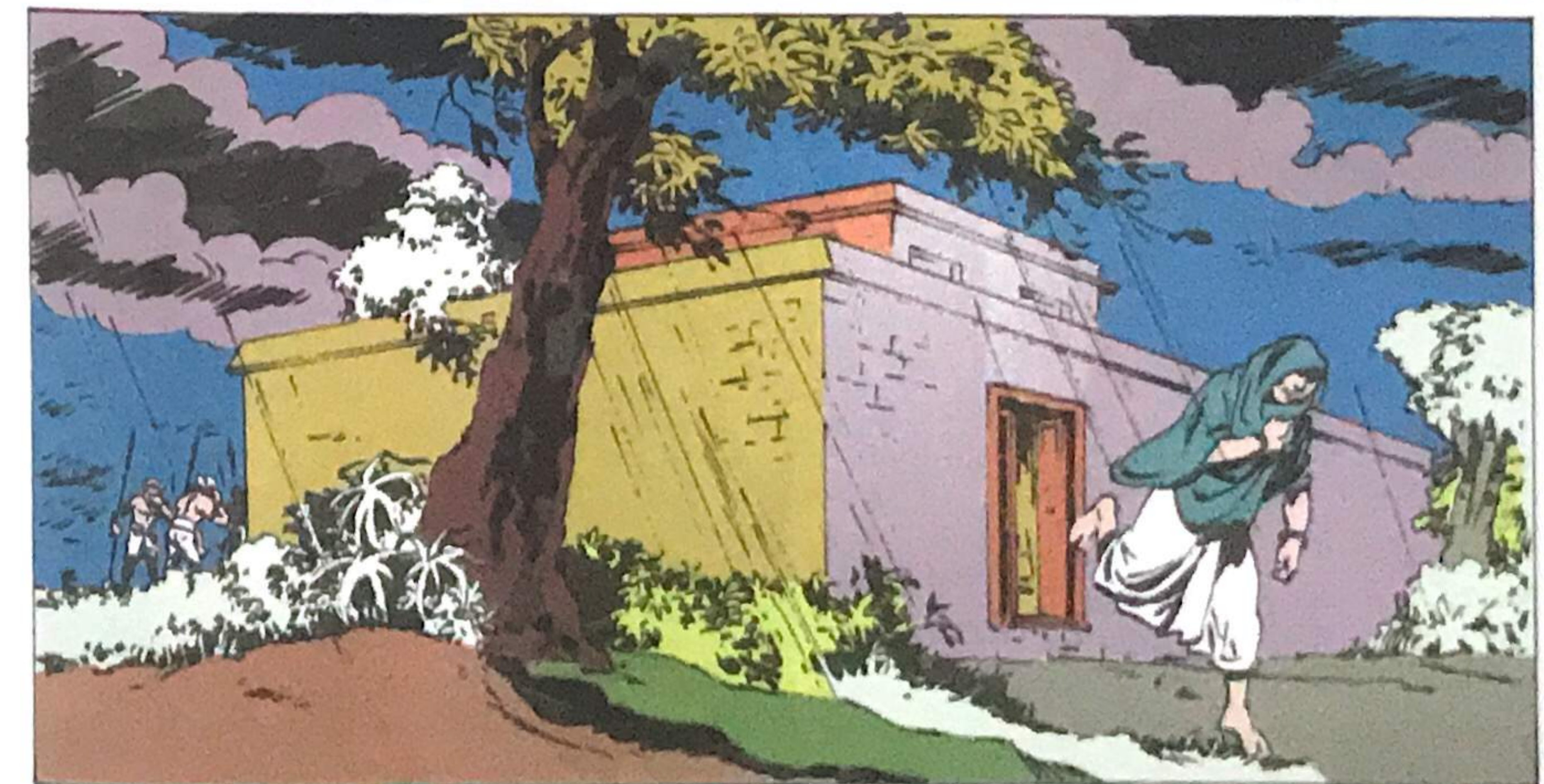
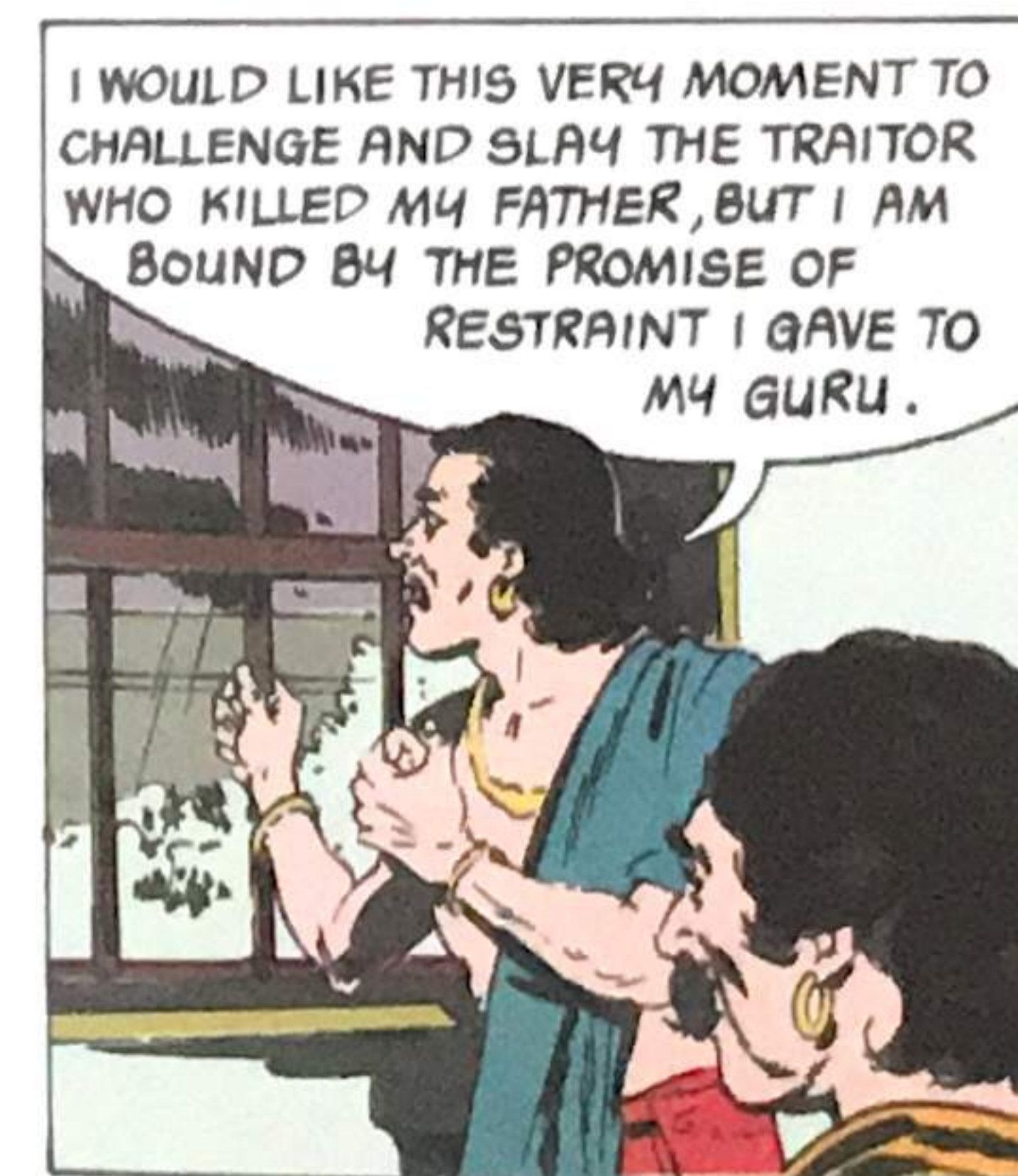
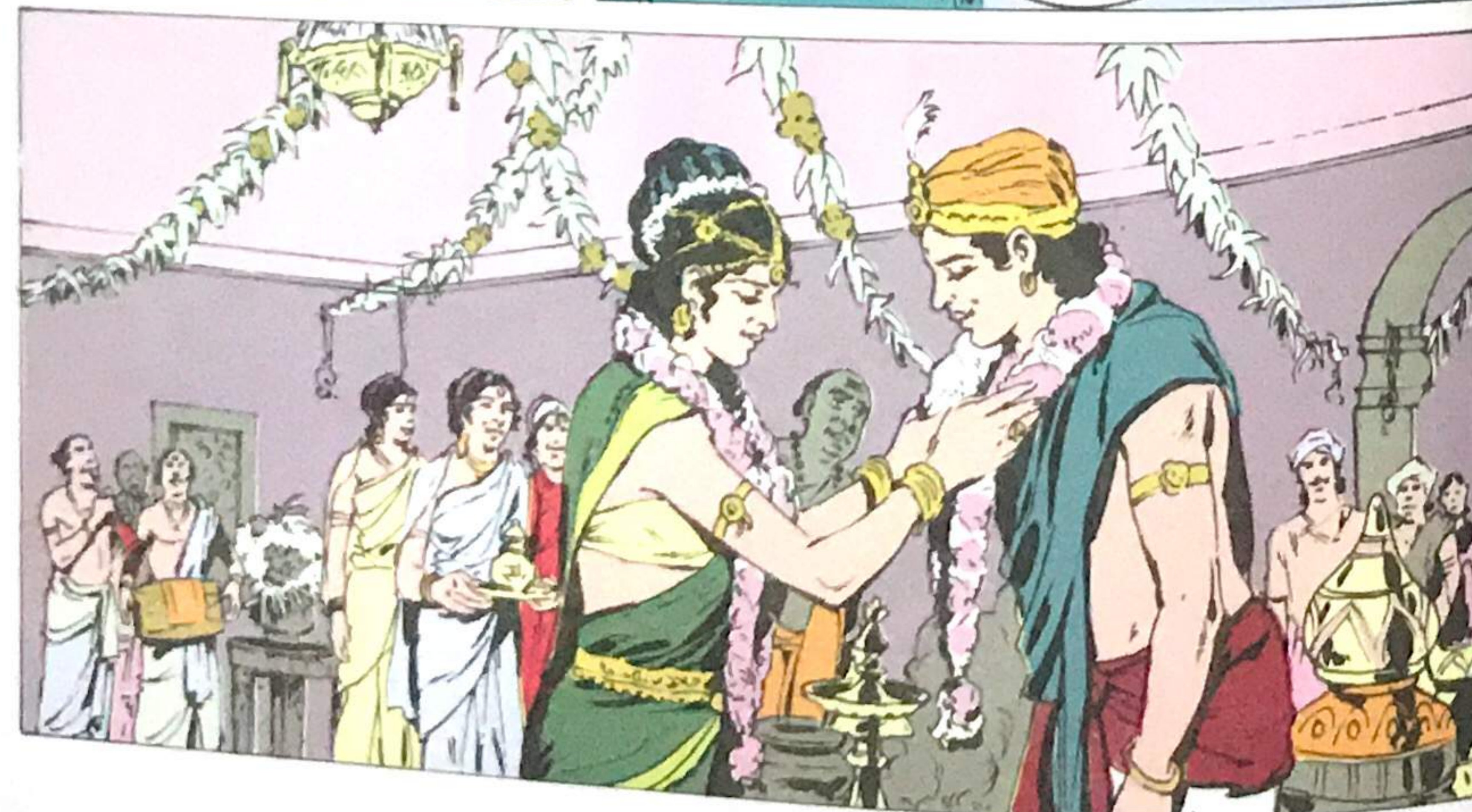
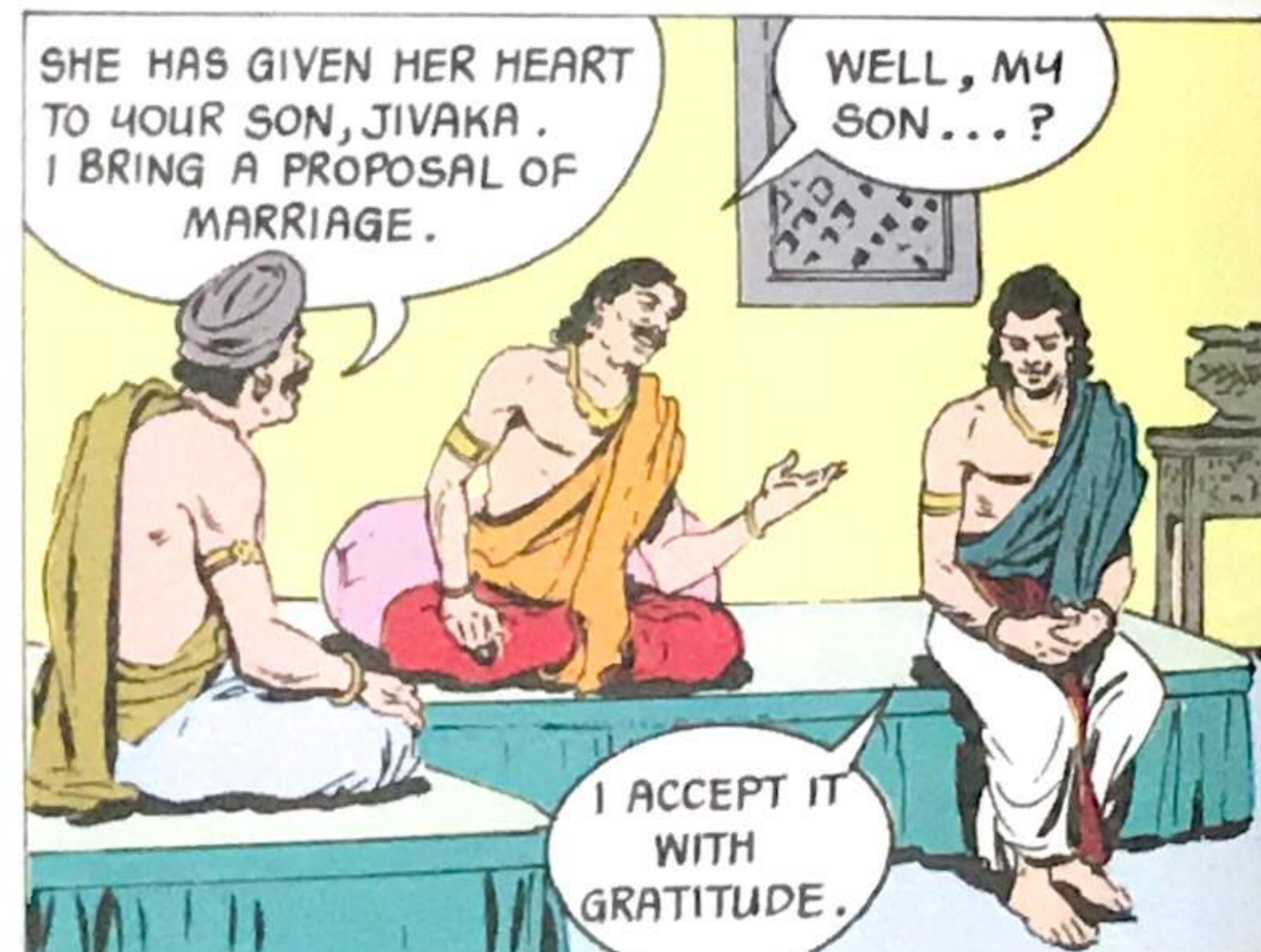
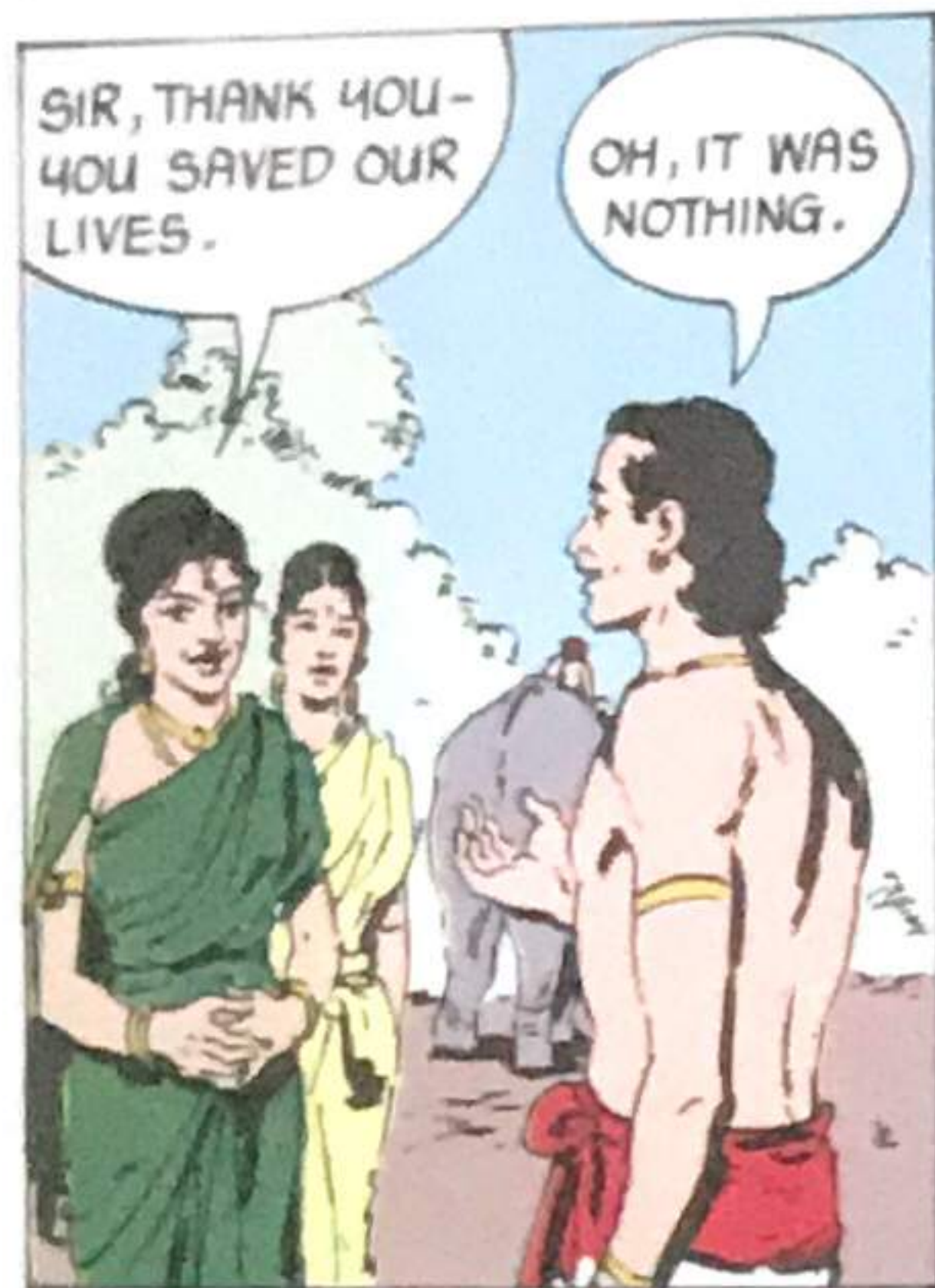




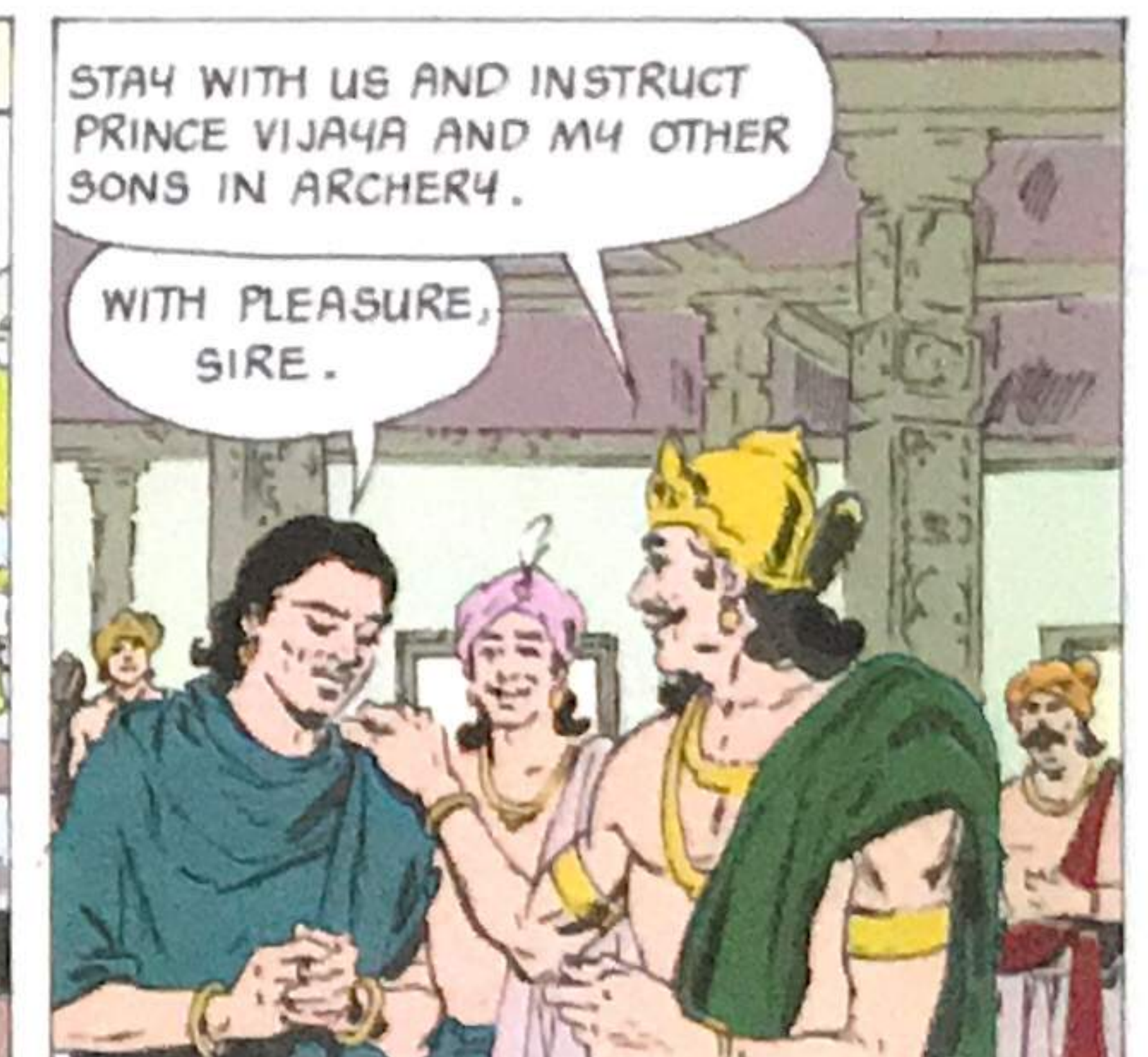
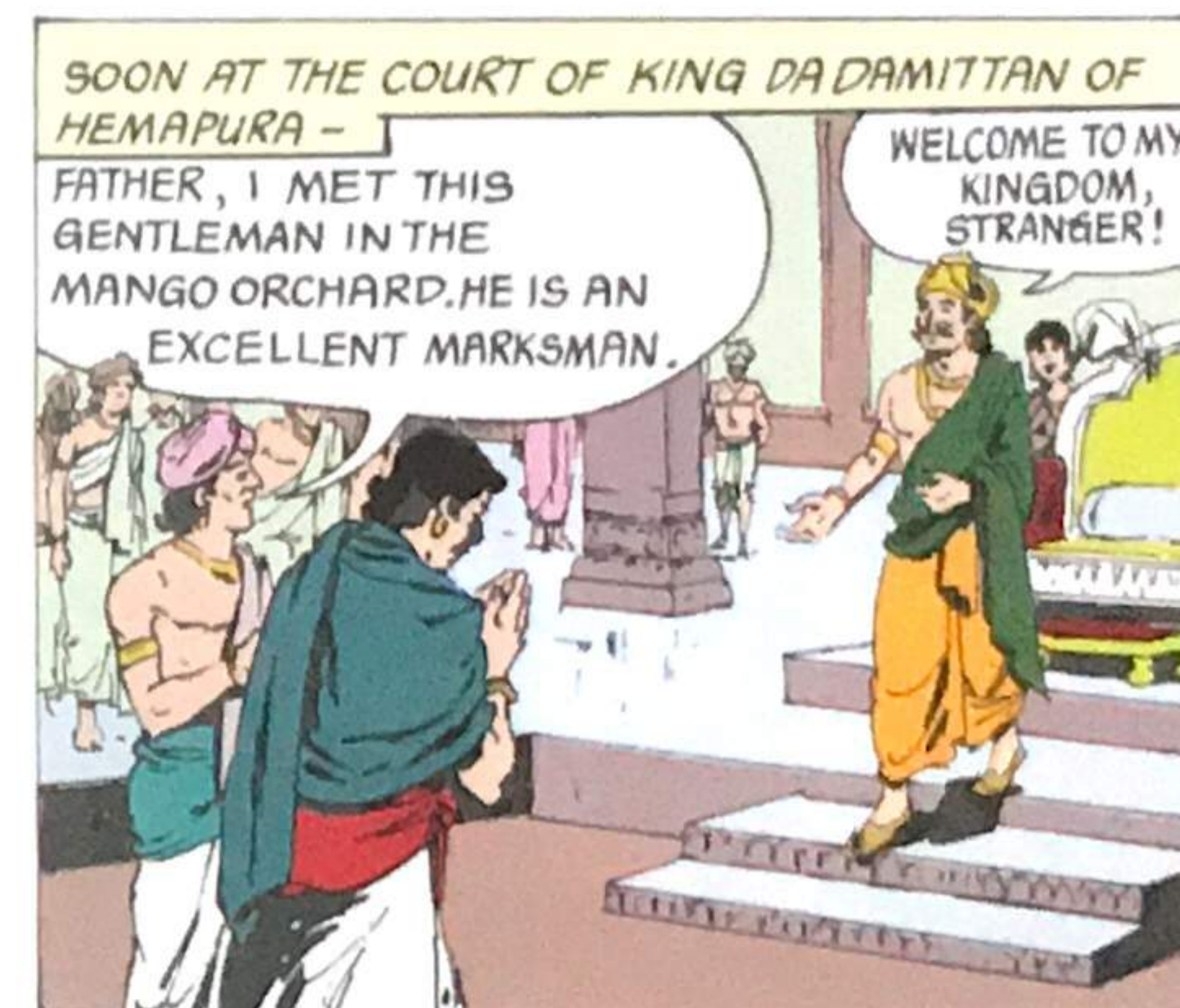
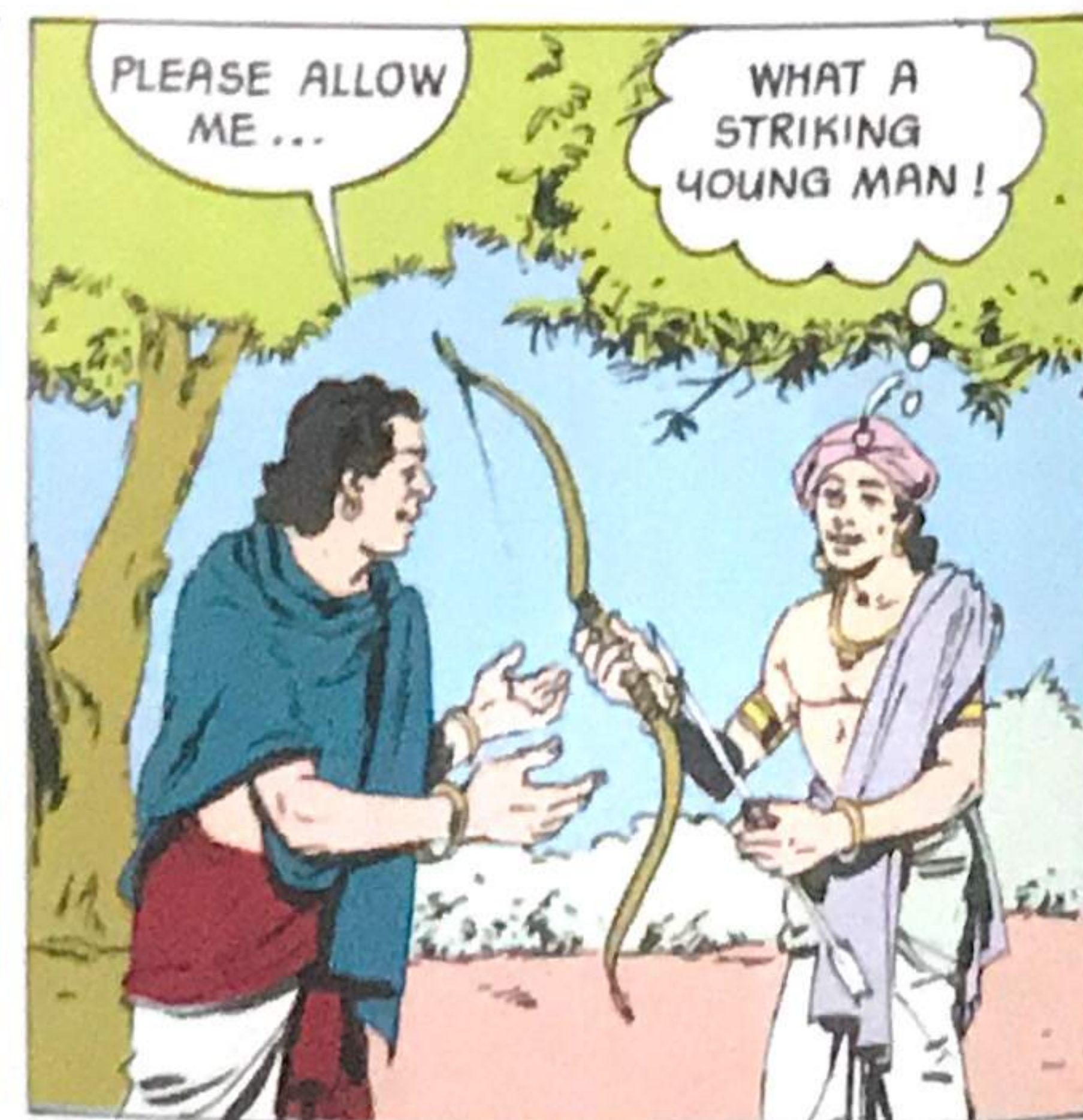
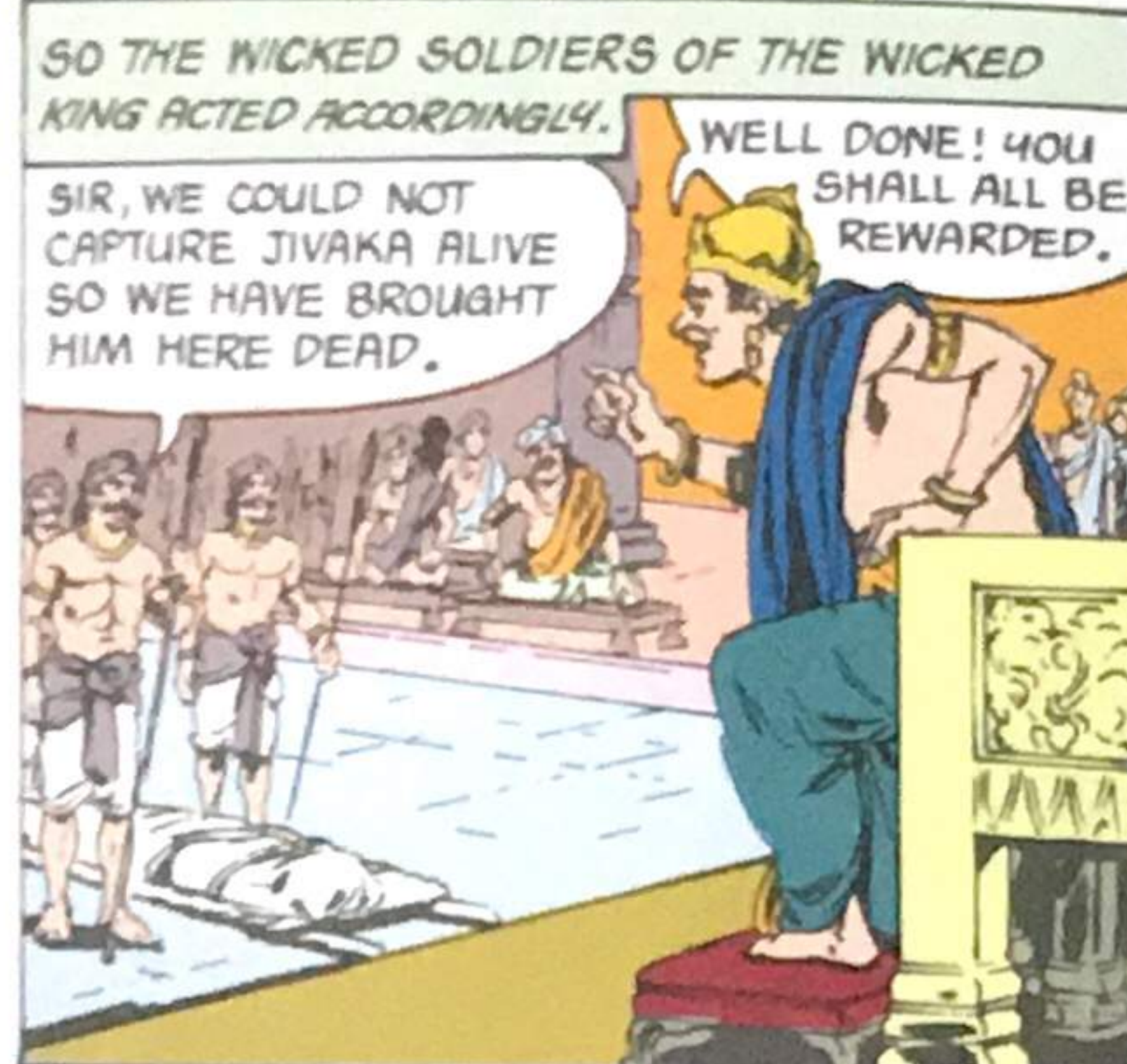
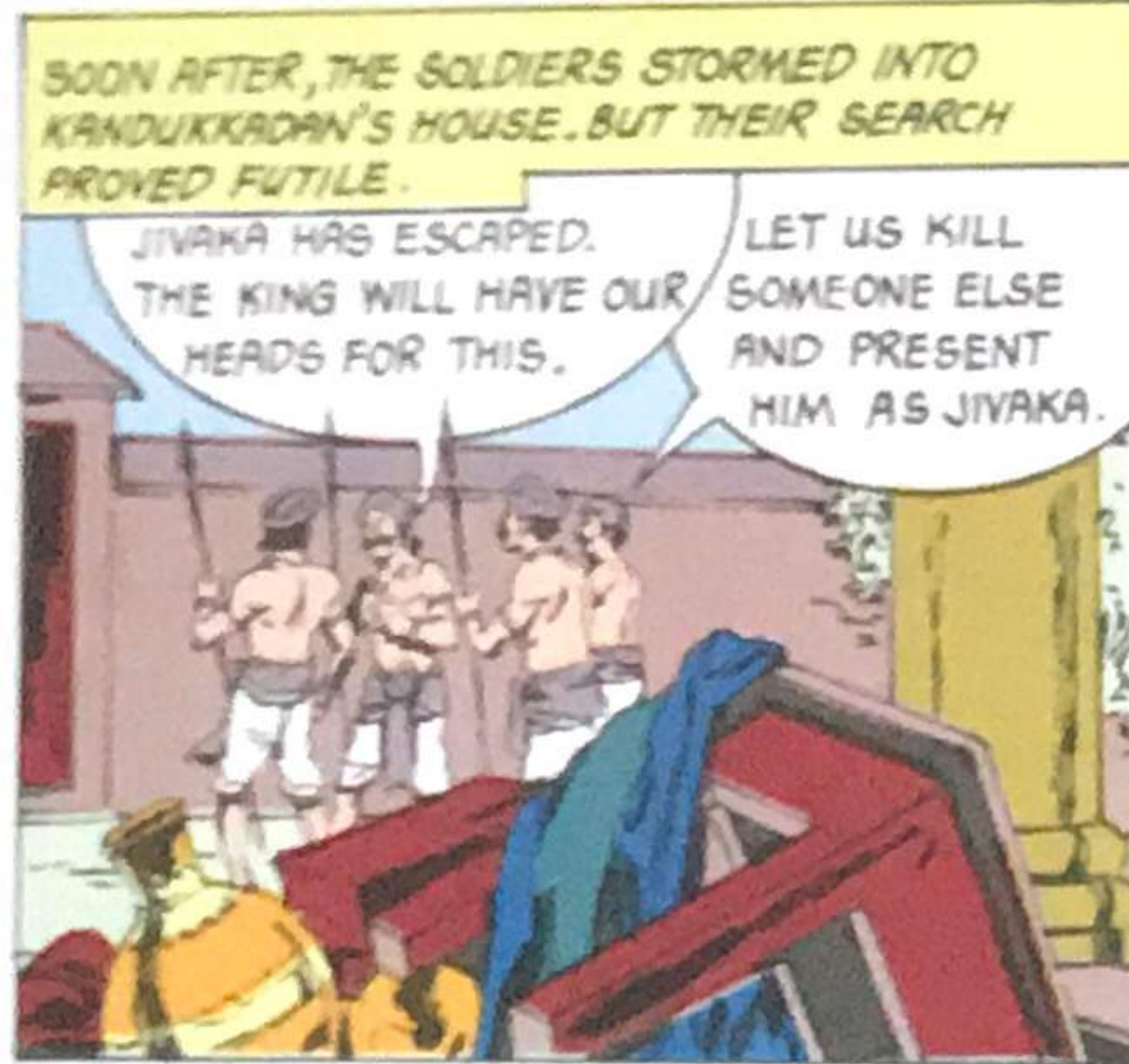






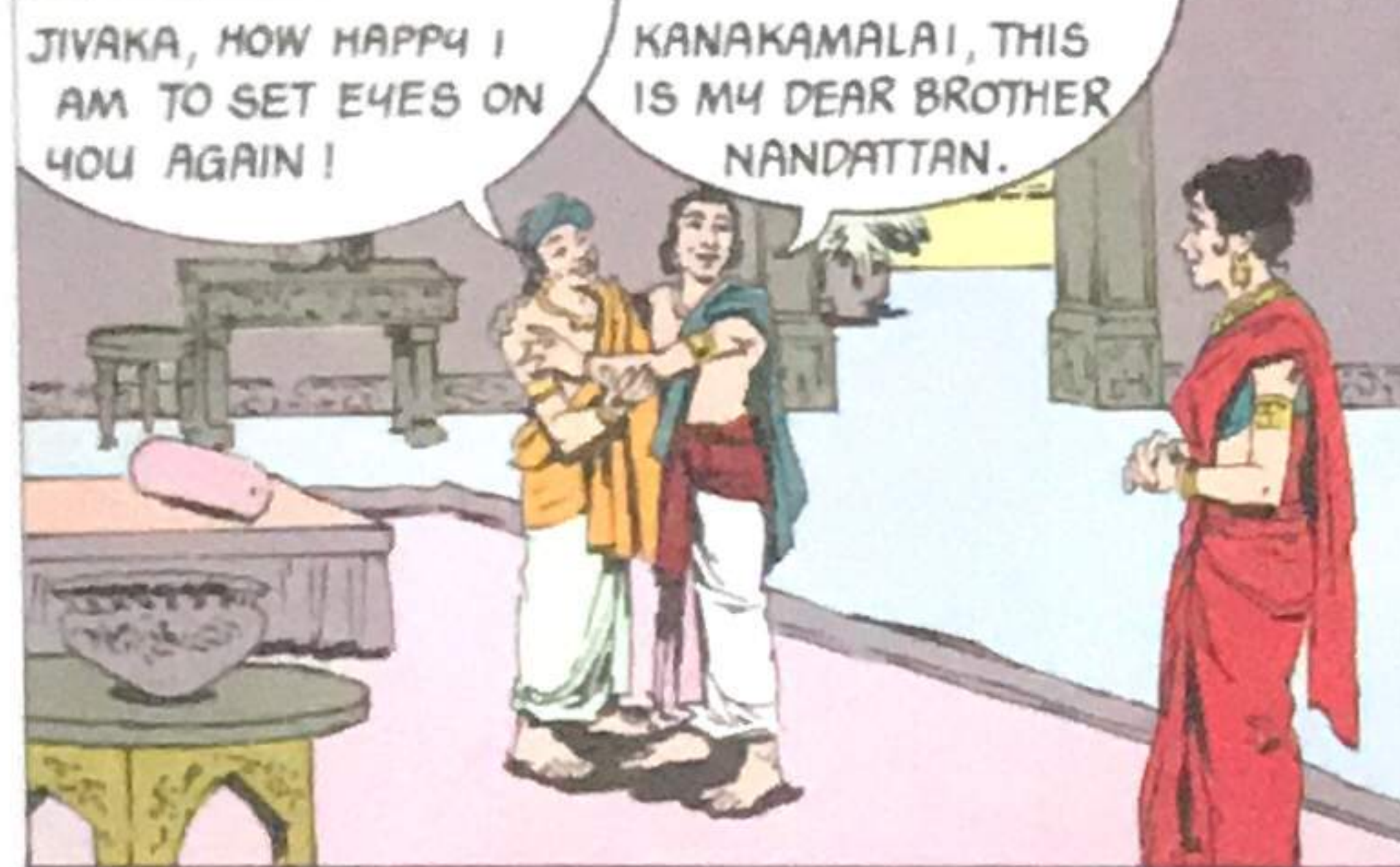








MEANWHILE, KANDUKKADAN'S SON, NANDATTAN, HAD SET OUT IN SEARCH OF JIVAKA AND FOUND HIM AT LAST IN HEMAPURA.

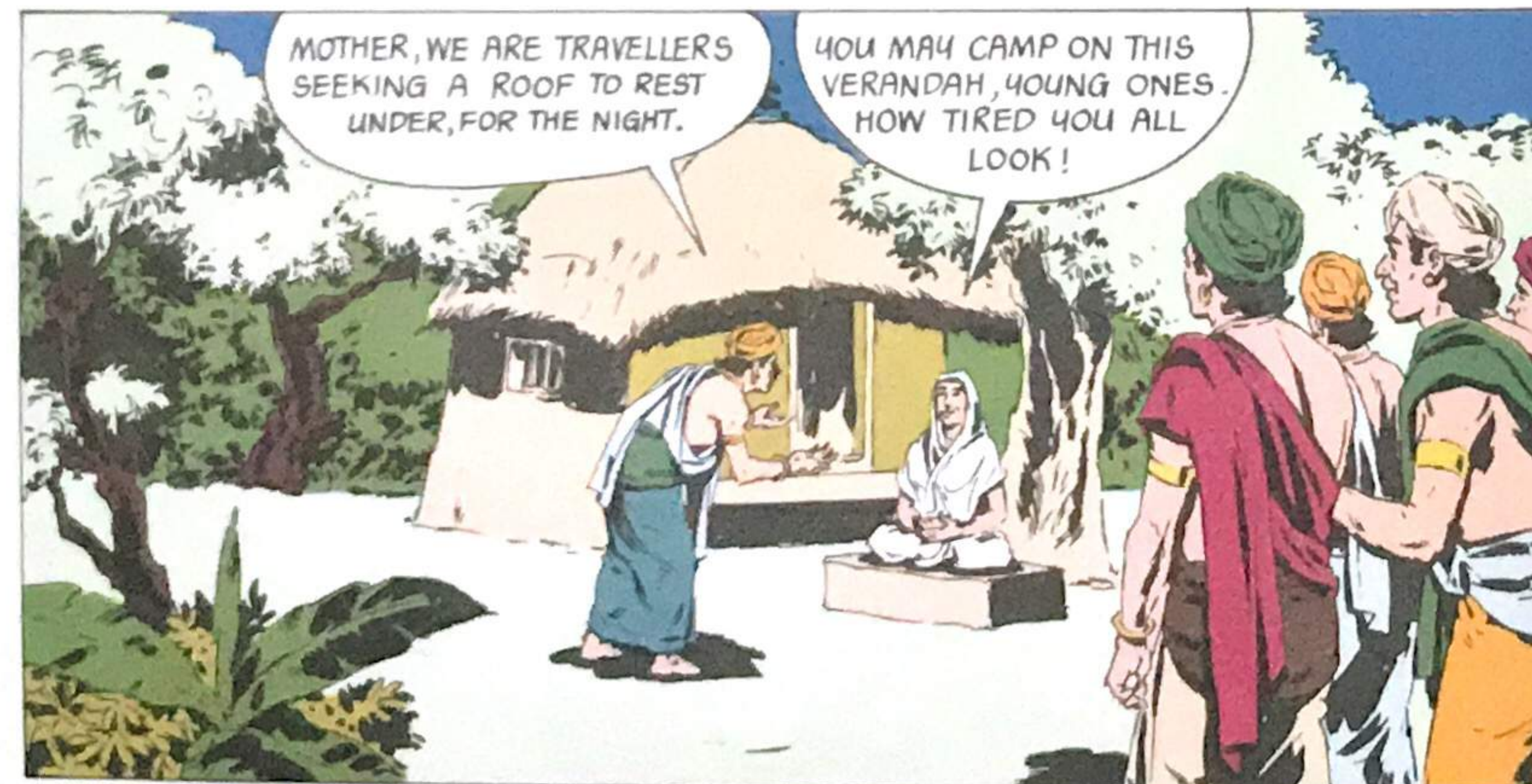


HOW ARE OUR DEAR PARENTS, OUR COUSINS AND FRIENDS?

ALL WELL, BUT SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU, FRIENDS?



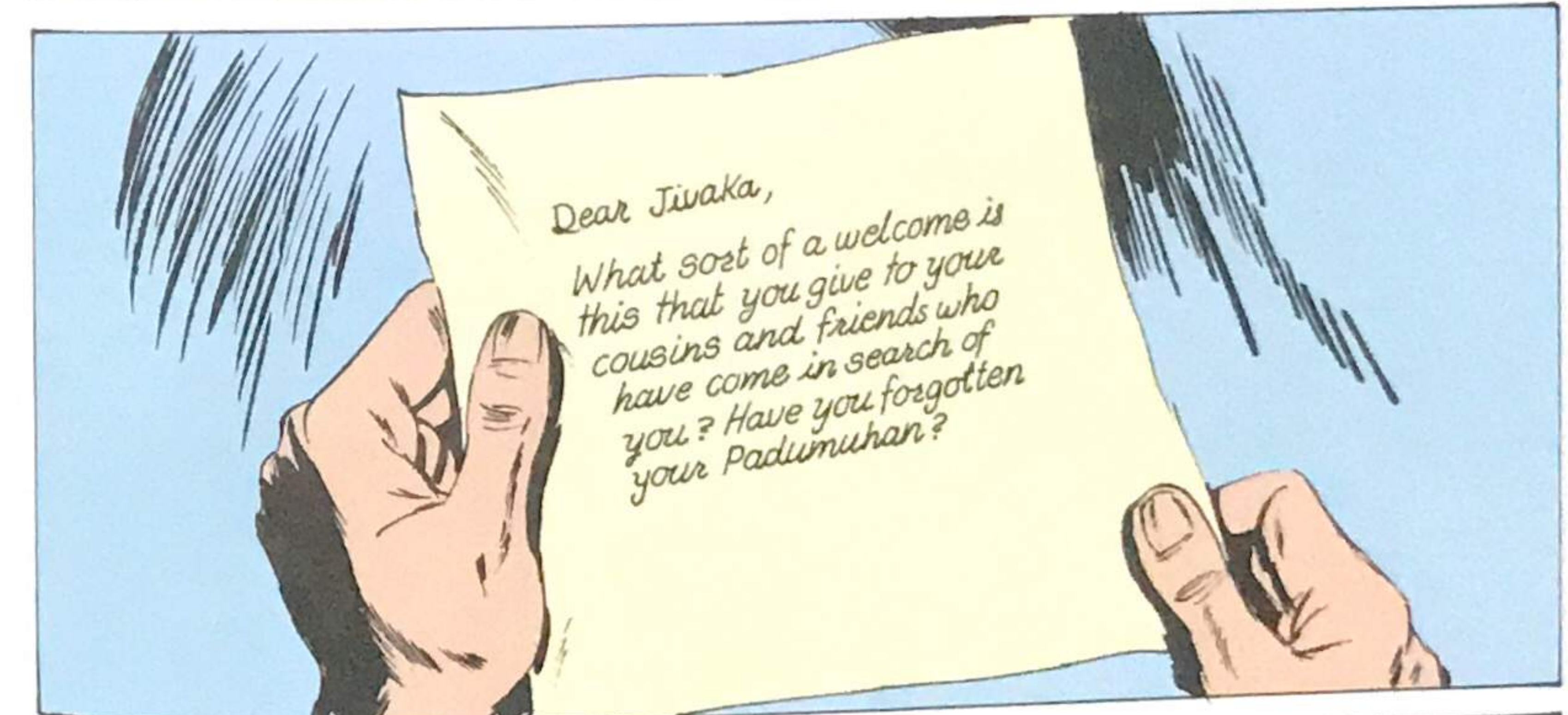
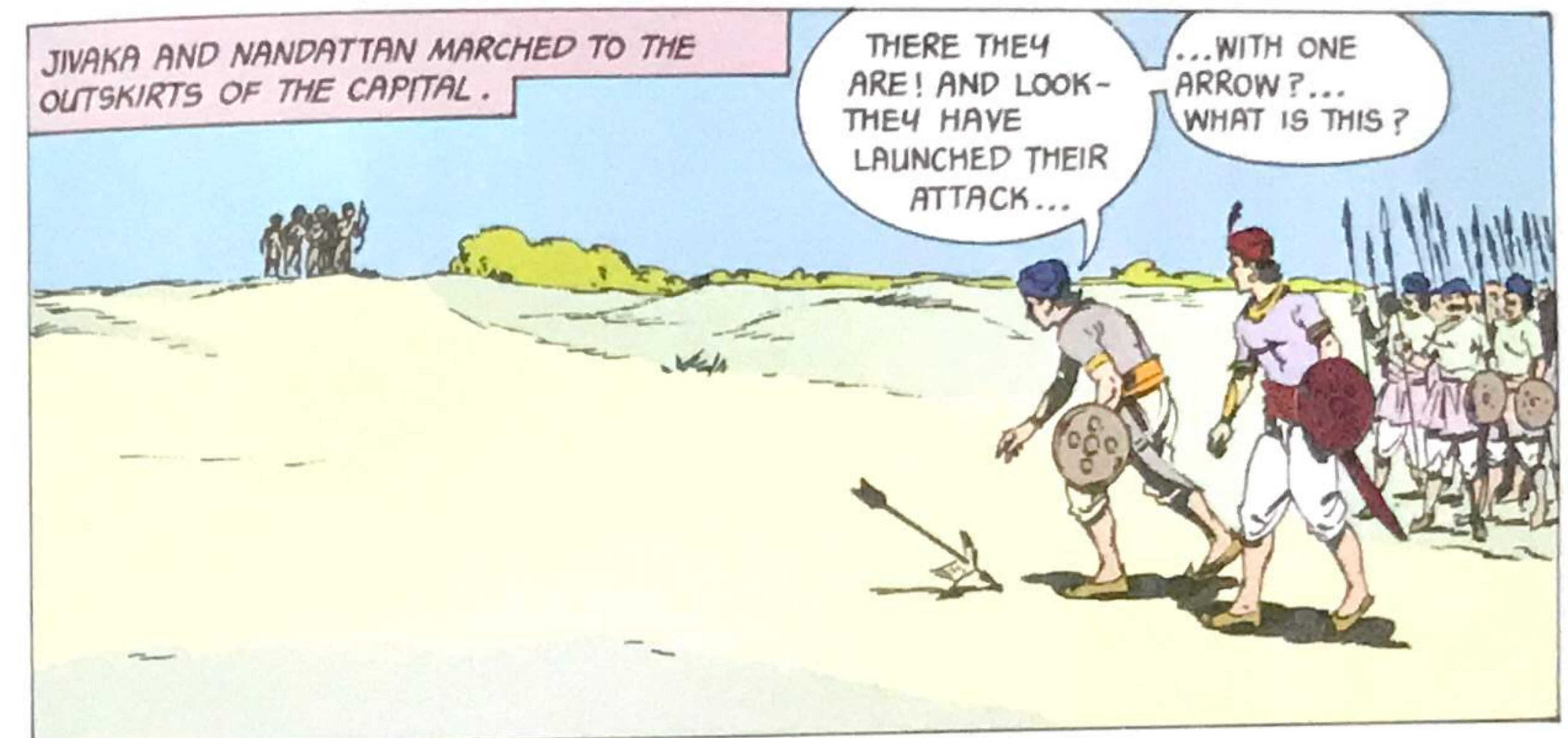
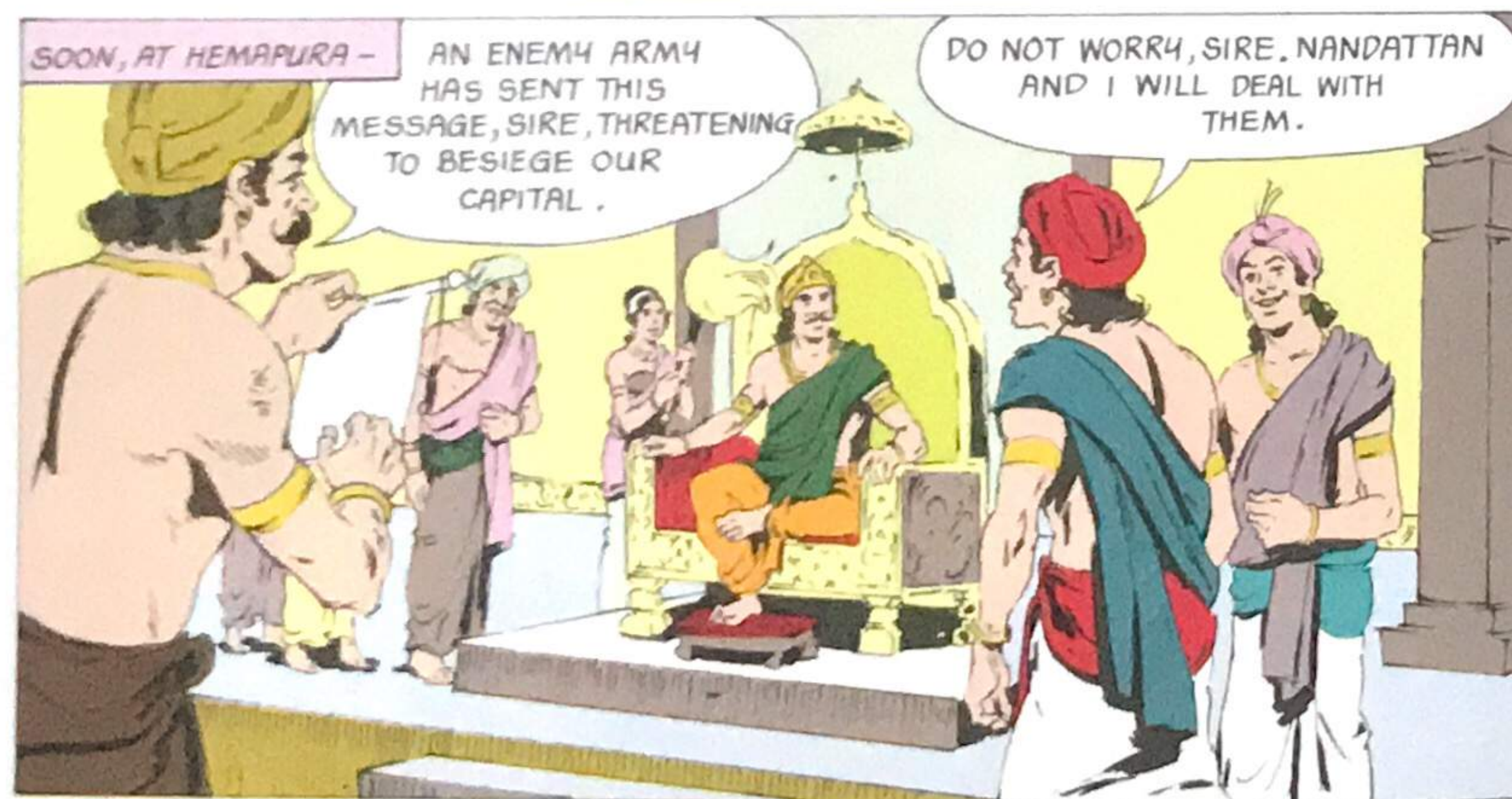
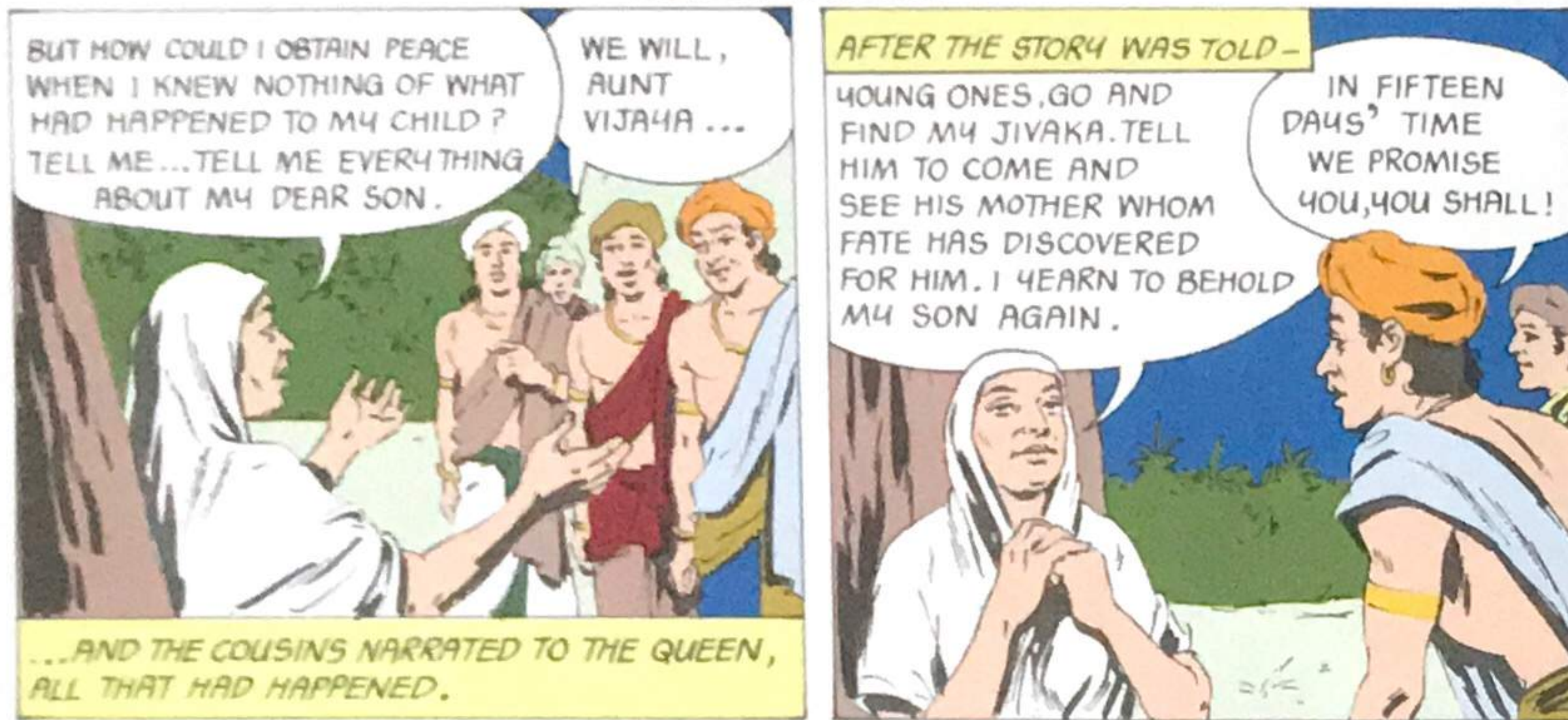
AND SO THEY WERE! JIVAKA'S COUSINS AND FRIENDS, LED BY JIVAKA'S CLOSEST FRIEND PADUMUHAN, HAD SET OUT ON A SEPARATE SEARCH. THEY WERE JUST THEN ENTERING THE JUNGLE REGIONS OF THE DANDAKA.



\* AN ABODE FOR JAIN LADY-ASCETICS









JIVAKA WAS OVERJOYED TO HEAR THE NEWS ABOUT VIJAYA. AND IMMEDIATELY -

SIRE, I SEEK YOUR PERMISSION TO GO AND SEE MY MOTHER. I WILL LEAVE KANAKAMALAI HERE WITH YOU.

GO AT ONCE, SON, FOR YOUR MOTHER MUST NOT BE KEPT WAITING LONG.

AND SOON -

MOTHER! DEAR MOTHER!

JIVAKA!

VIJAYA AND JIVAKA SPENT SIX HAPPY DAYS TOGETHER.

SON, I HEAR FROM REPORTS THAT OUR PEOPLE ARE MISERABLE UNDER THE TYRANT KATTIYANGARAN. IT IS TIME NOW FOR THE DEATH OF YOUR FATHER TO BE AVENGED. SEEK YOUR UNCLE'S - MY BROTHER'S HELP TO GET BACK THE KINGDOM.

MOTHER, YOU WILL GO TO HIM FIRST. WE WILL FOLLOW LATER.

VIJAYA'S UNCLE GOVINDARAJA, THE KING OF VIDAIYA - NADU JOYOUSLY RECEIVED FIRST HIS SISTER VIJAYA, AND THEN, JIVAKA AND HIS COMPANIONS.

UNCLE, THE ONE YEAR OF RESTRAINT I PROMISED MY GURU IS NOW UP.

MY NEPHEW, I WILL GIVE YOU ALL HELP. I HAVE ALREADY THOUGHT OUT A STRATEGY. MY DAUGHTER ILAKKANAI IS PART OF IT...

SOON -

HEAR! HEAR! HEAR! KING GOVINDARAJA IS GOING TO HOLD A SWAYAMVARA FOR HIS DAUGHTER. ALL MIGHTY KINGS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.

AND AT RAJAMAPURAM, KATTIYANGARAN TOO HEARD OF THE SWAYAMVARA, TO BE HELD.

IT IS REPORTED THAT ILAKKANAI'S BEAUTY IS UNSURPASSED. I TOO SHALL ATTEND THE SWAYAMVARA.

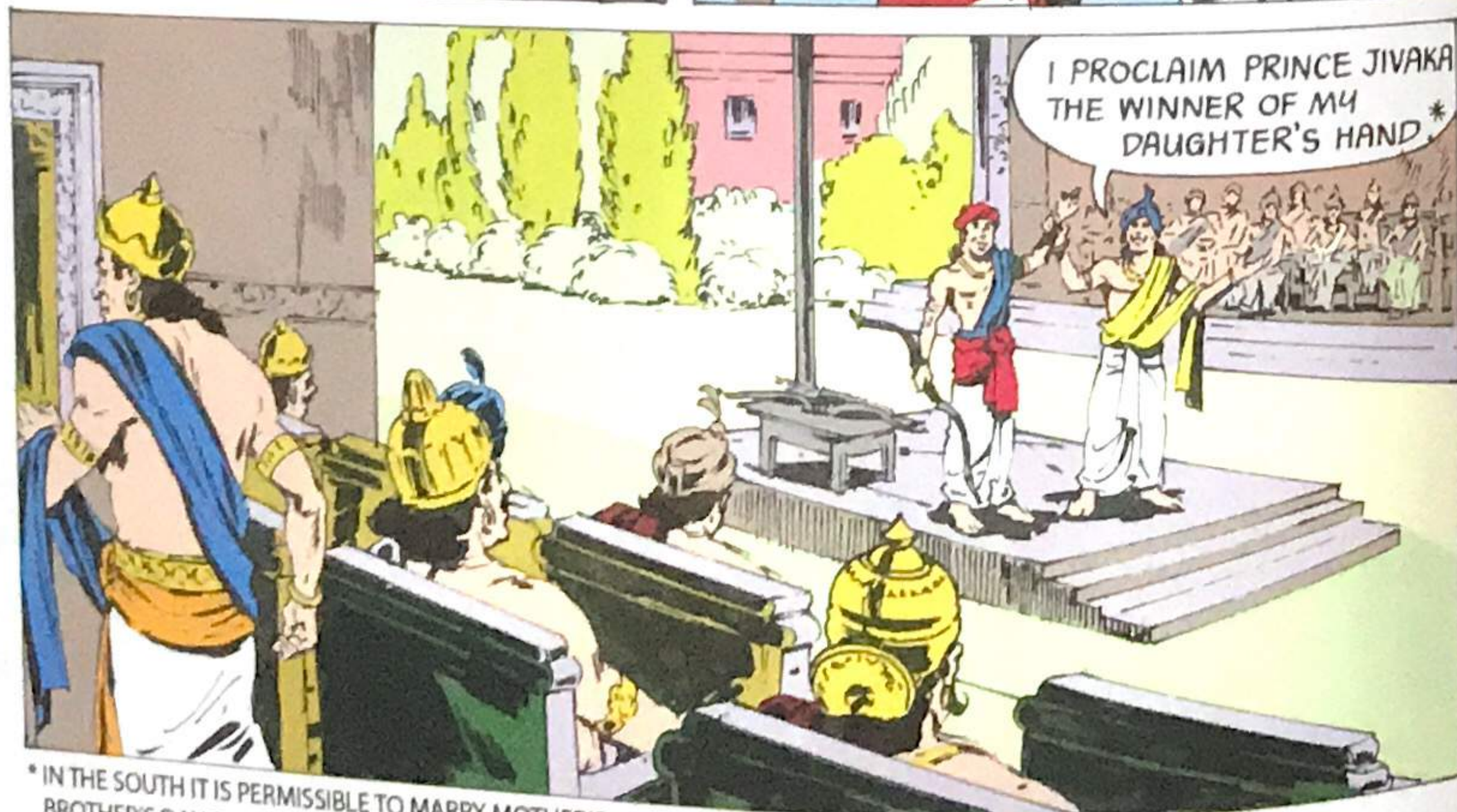
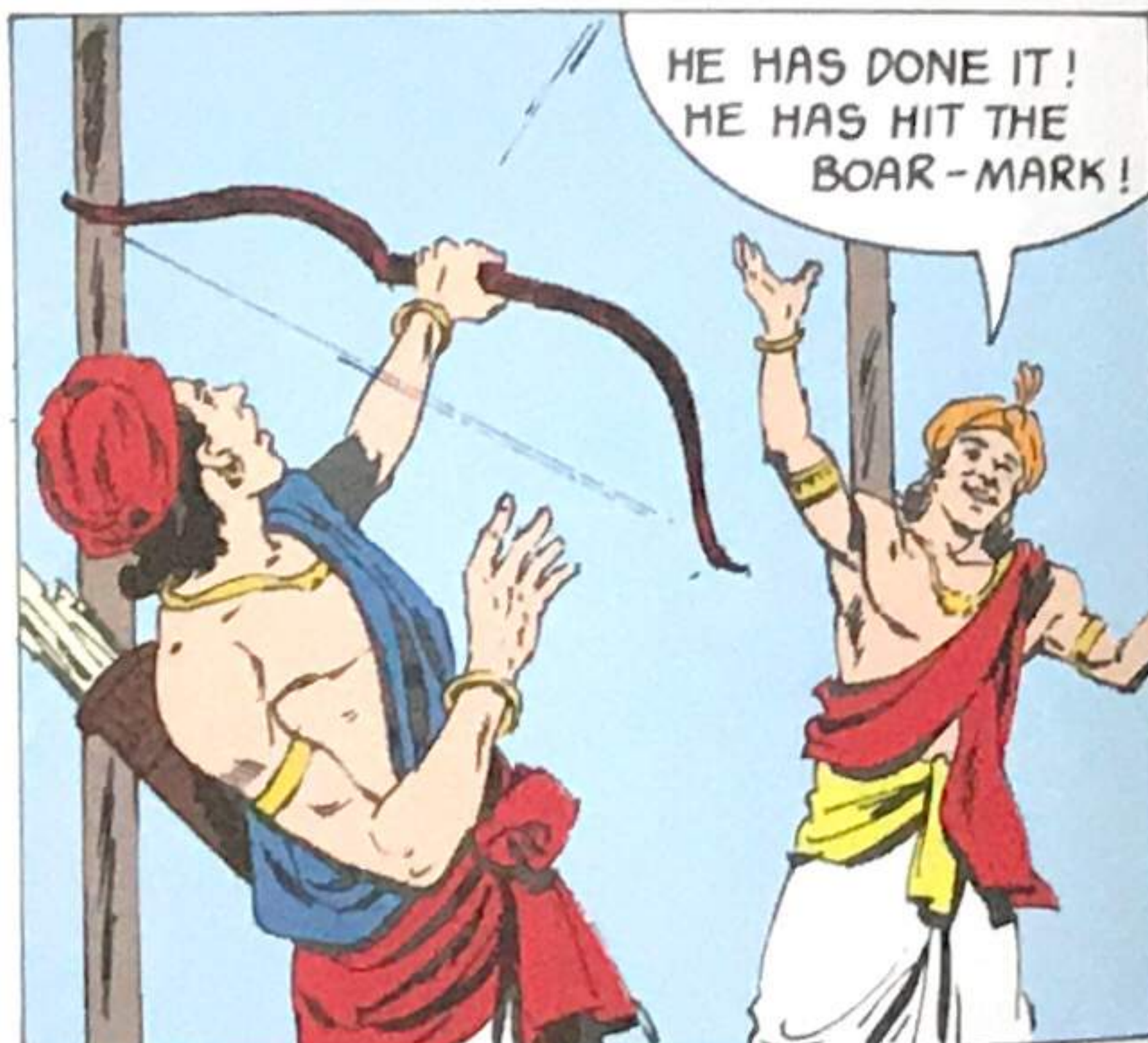
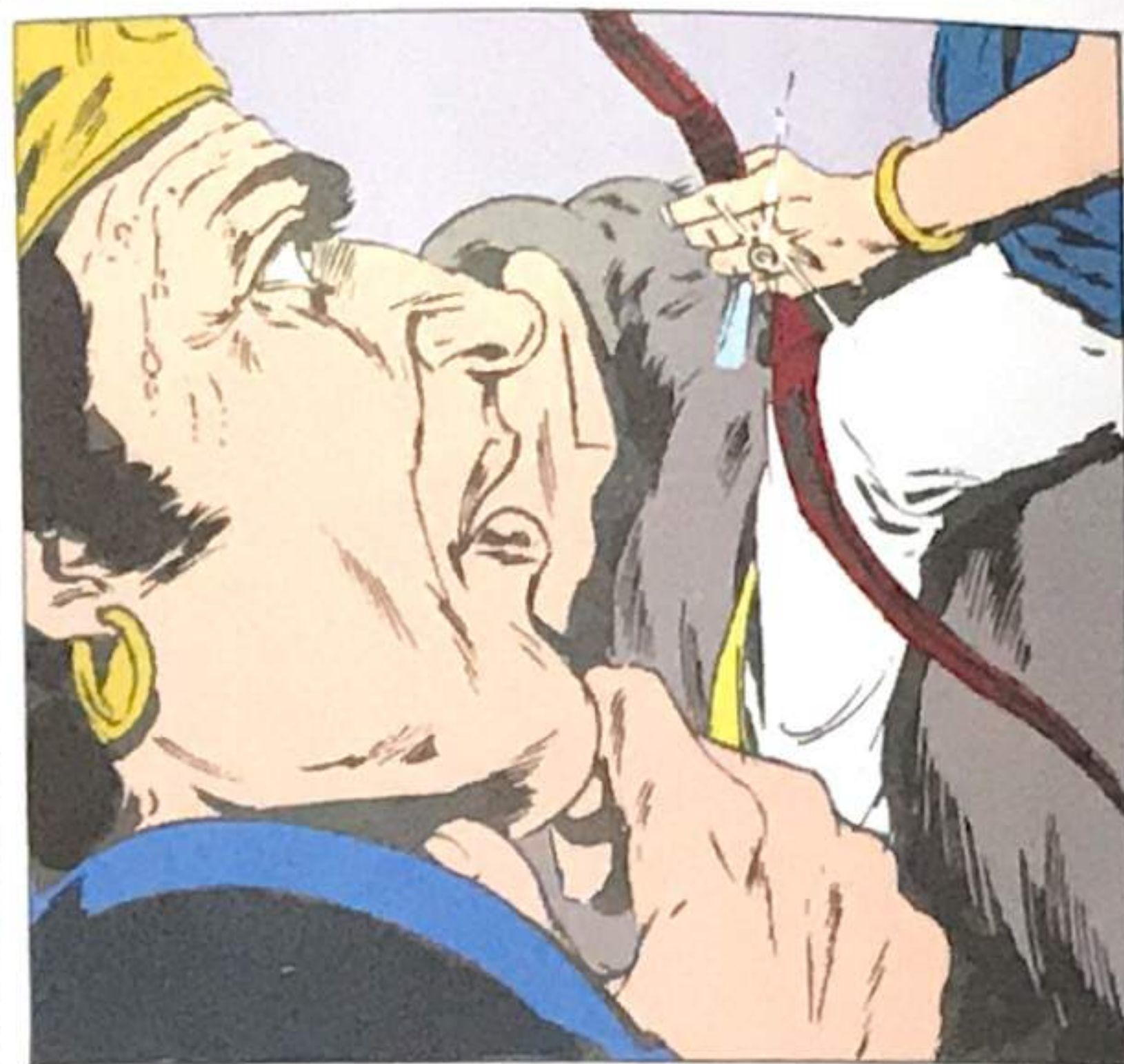
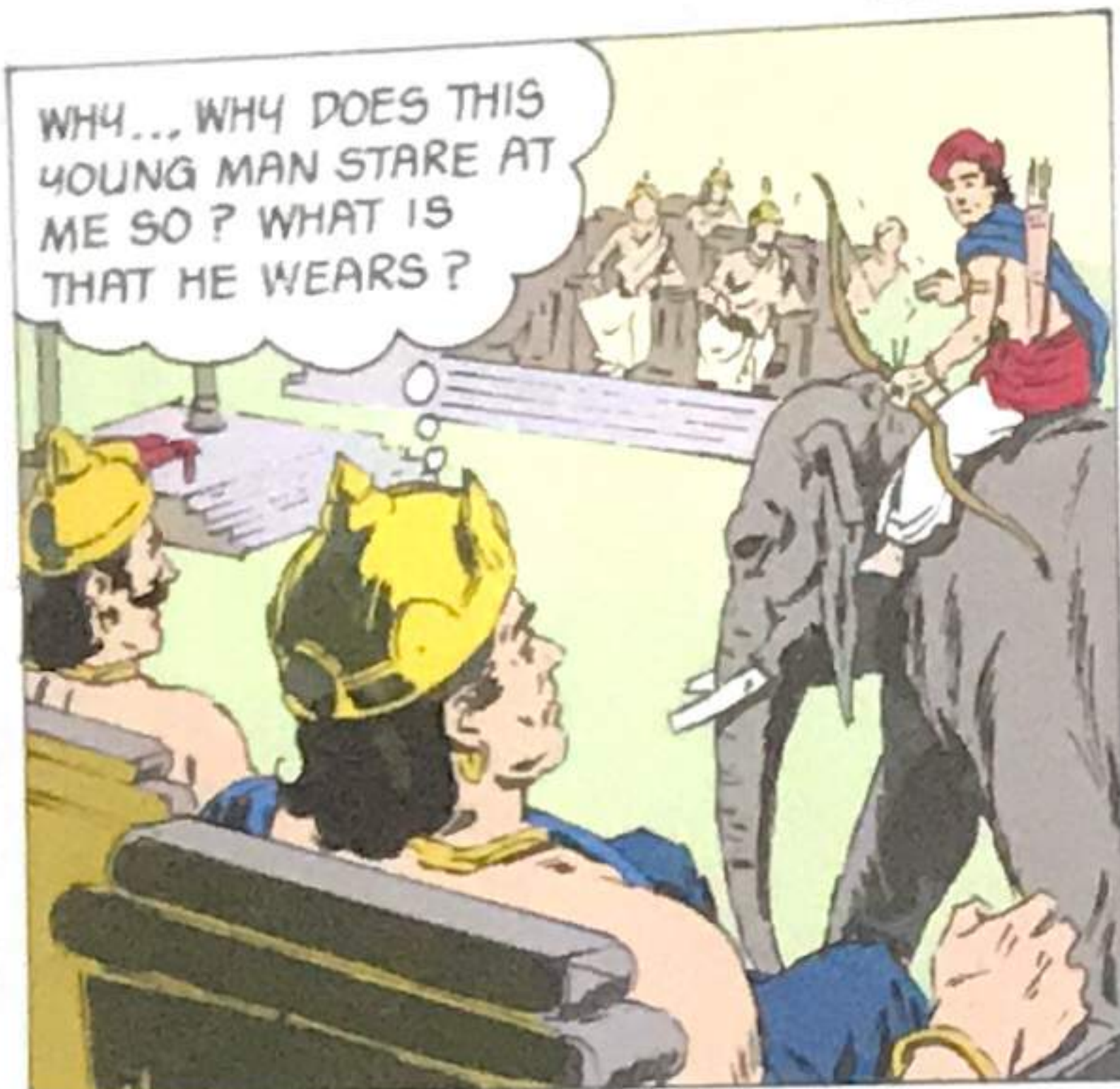
ON THE DAY OF THE SWAYAMVARA, THE MANDAPA WAS PACKED WITH EAGER SUITORS.

O ASSEMBLED KINGS, WHOEVER SUCCEEDS IN HITTING THAT REVOLVING BOAR SHALL WIN THE HAND OF THE PRINCESS.

EVERY SUITOR CAME FORWARD TO TRY, BUT FAILED.

SUDDENLY, A NEW SUITOR ENTERED THE HALL.

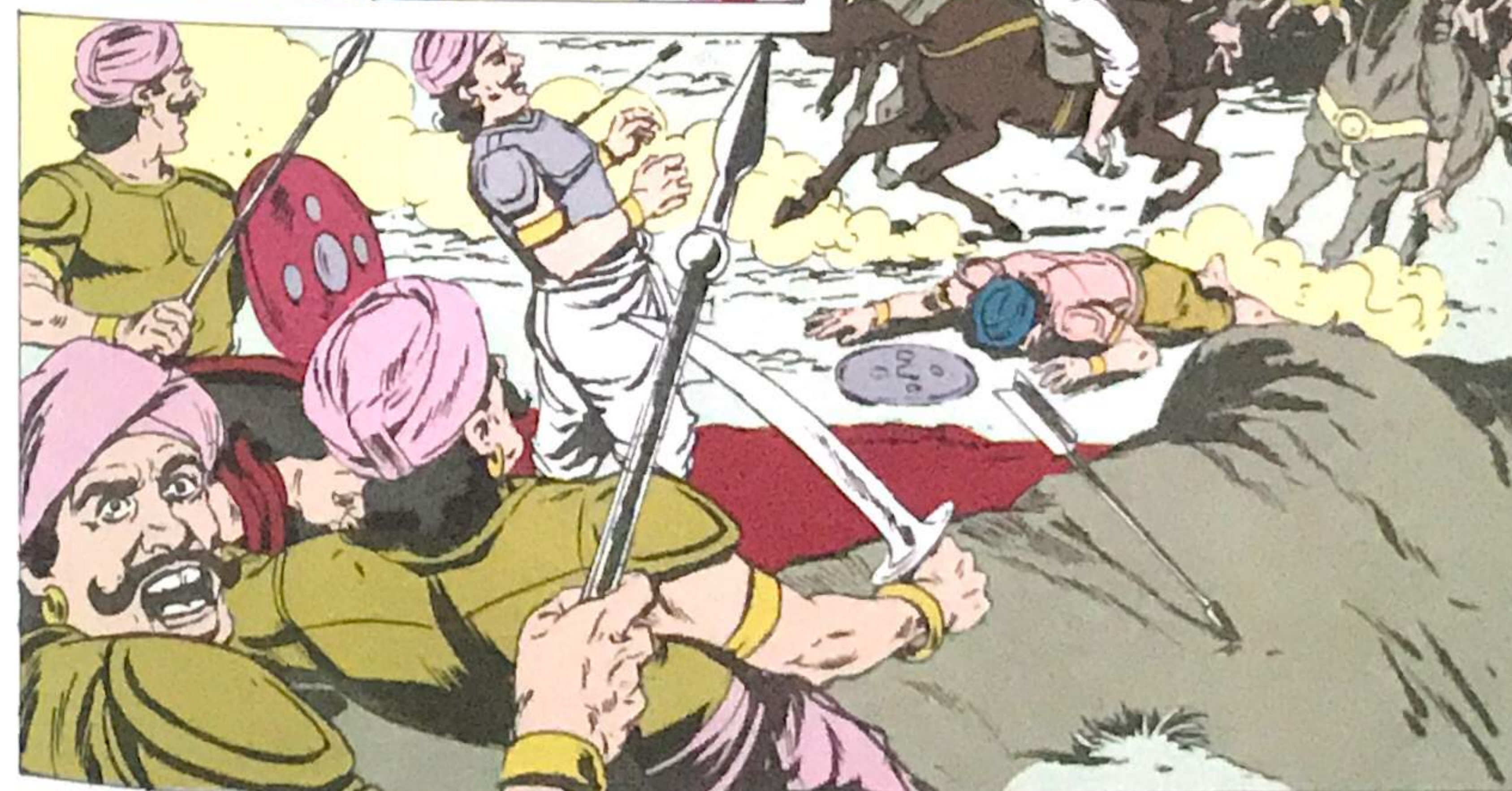




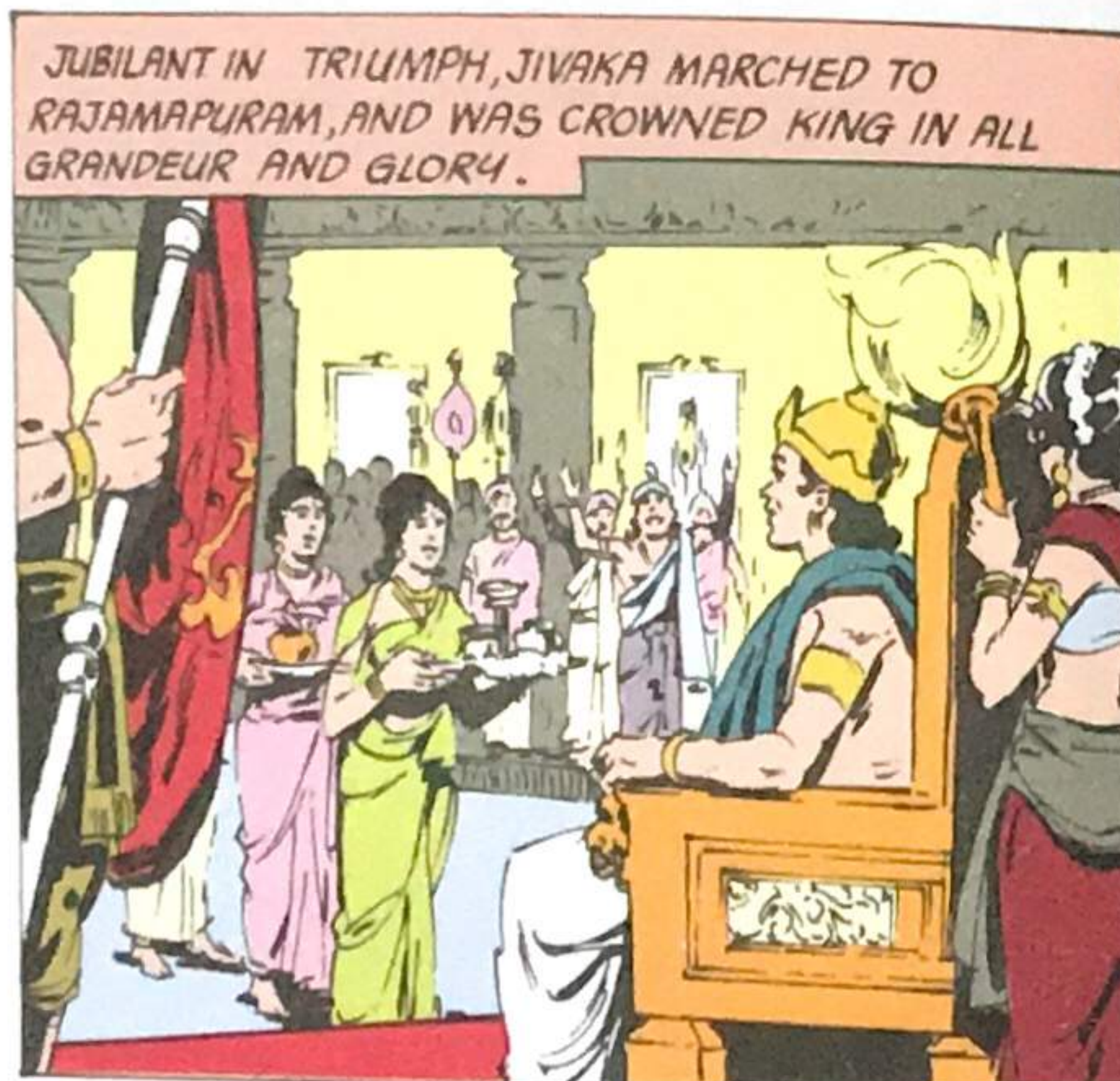
\* IN THE SOUTH IT IS PERMISSIBLE TO MARRY MOTHER'S BROTHER'S DAUGHTER



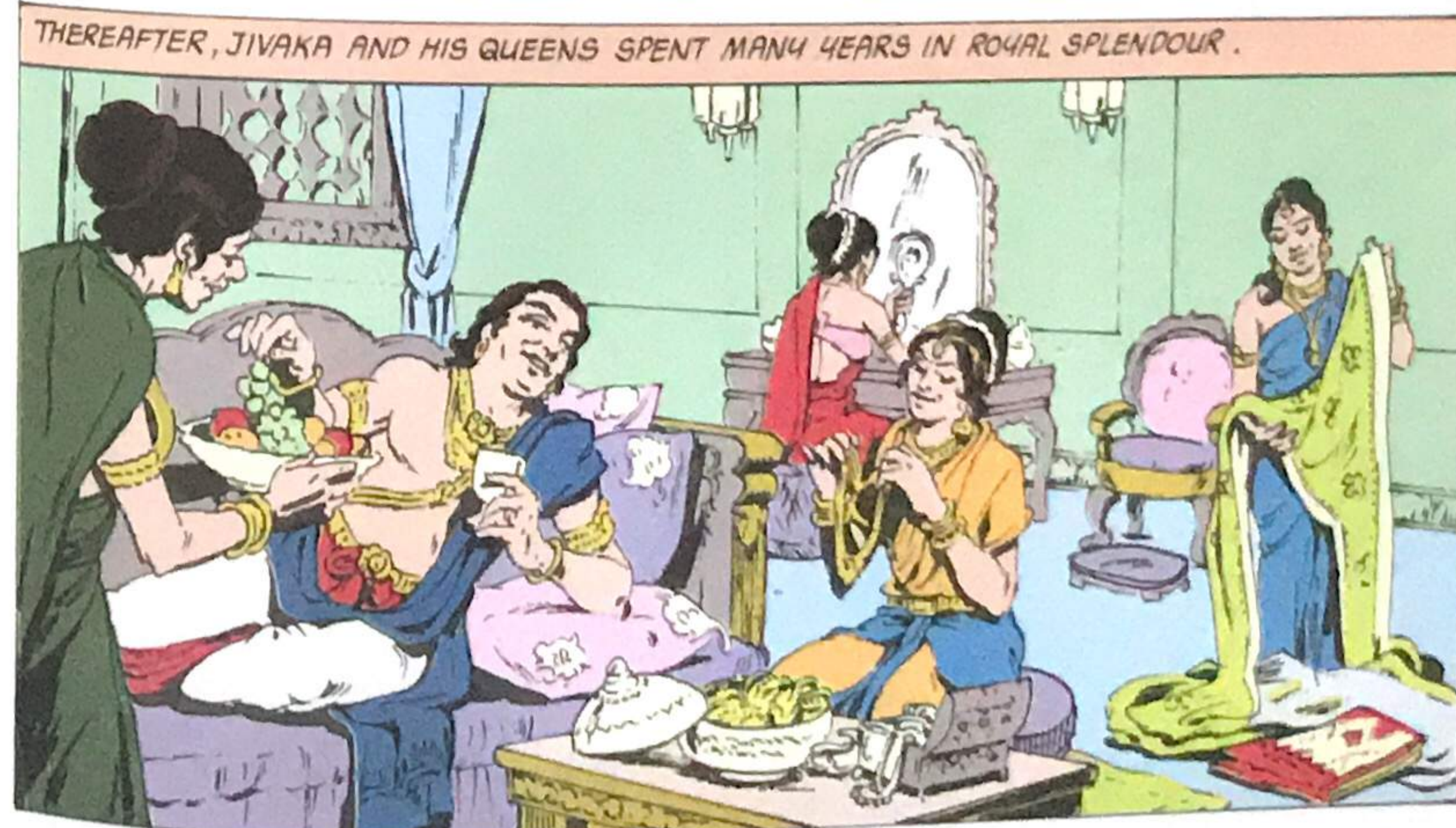
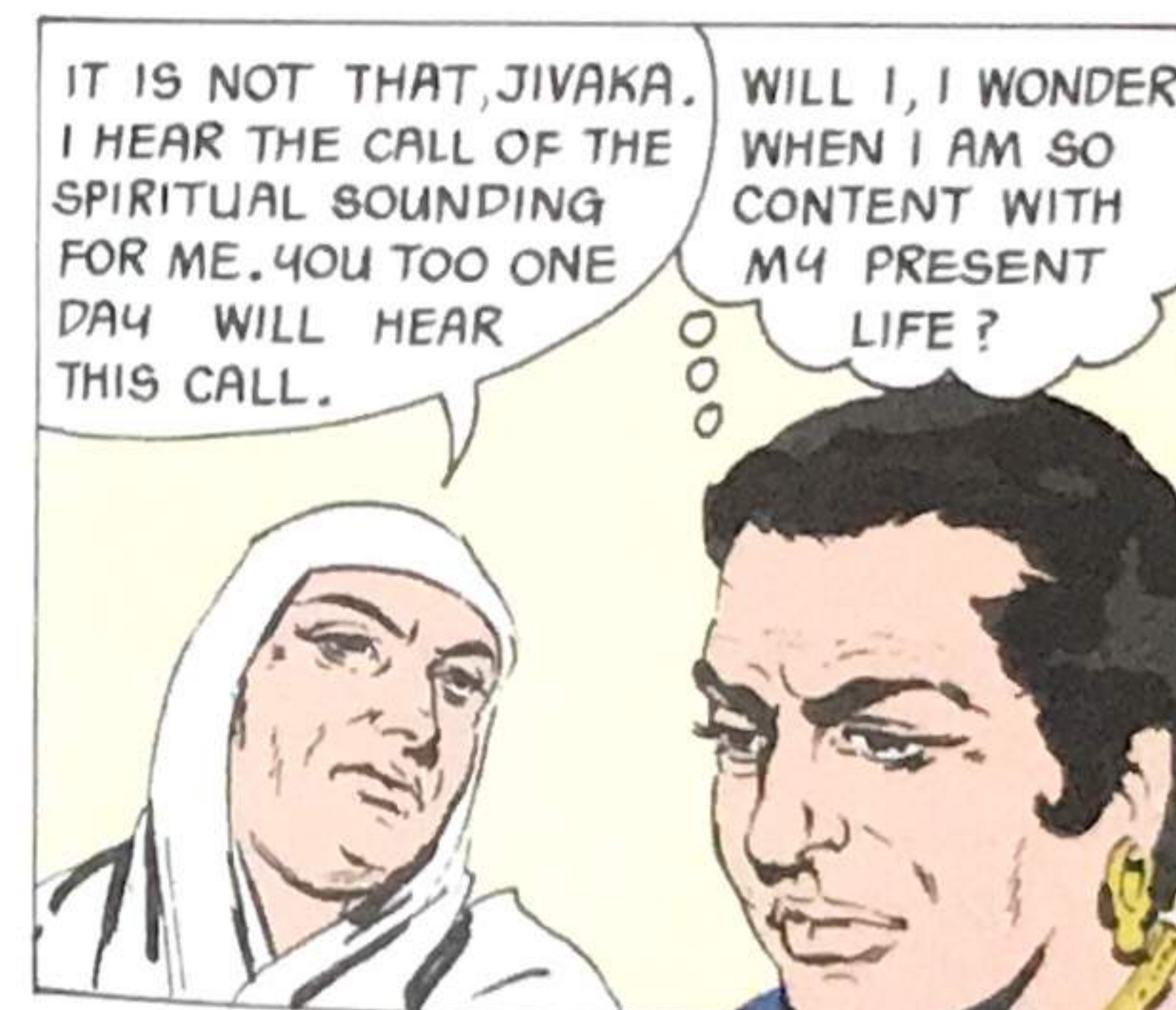
A FIERCE BATTLE FOLLOWED BETWEEN KATTIYANGARAN AND ALL HIS SONS ON THE ONE SIDE AND JIVAKA AND HIS ALLIES ON THE OTHER.







HE ELEVATED HIS FOSTER-FATHER KANDUKKADAN, TO ROYAL HONOUR, RICHLY REWARDED HIS COUSINS AND FRIENDS AND GAVE AWAY KATTIANGARAN'S RICHES TO HIS UNCLE, GOVINDARAJA. PROSPERITY AND PLENTY REIGNED ONCE AGAIN IN HEMANGADA UNDER JIVAKA'S RULE MAKING VIJAYA'S DREAM COME TRUE.





THEN ONE DAY, WHEN JIVAKA WAS STROLLING IN THE ROYAL GARDENS -

WHAT A LOVING MONKEY COUPLE!

